

CPCDC secures largest amount of funding in more than 10 years

The Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation was one of seven community development financial institutions to close on a multi-party bond totaling \$127 million. On its own, the CPCDC has secured a \$16 million bond as part of the United States Treasury Department’s CDFI Bond Guarantee Program. With this bond, the total amount of financing secured for 2015 is more than \$21.3 million, exceeding the combined total for years 2003-2014.

“We are excited to have secured this bond and to have increased our funding during 2015,” said Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation Director Shane Jett. “We’re the only Native American CDFI participating in this bond program setting an important precedence for the 70 other Native CDFI’s around the United States.”

This bond is part of a landmark round with \$327 million in bonds issued, marking the third year of the program designed to provide CDFIs with the long-term, reliable capital they need to spur development in low-income and under-resourced communities. Opportunity Finance Network was the qualified issuer.

“OFN is proud to have issued this multi-party bond for our member CDFIs to catalyze critical economic development in underserved areas throughout our country. This bond is a testament to the financial strength of our member CDFIs, and a reflection of their effectiveness in providing access to responsible and affordable capital where it is needed most,” said OFN Chief Operating Officer Cathy Dolan. “Through this \$127 million, multi-party bond, OFN members like Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation can reach further into tough markets to make a real difference.”

Other participants in the multi-party

2015 CPCDC ECONOMIC IMPACT

26 COMMERCIAL LOANS TOTALING \$3,416,434	14 COMMERCIAL LOANS SPECIFICALLY TO OKLAHOMA, NATIVE AMERICAN-OWNED BUSINESSES
466 CONSUMER LOANS TOTALING \$794,884	33 JOBS CREATED OR RETAINED
525 CLIENTS PROVIDED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	

IN THE LAST 12 YEARS, THE CPCDC MADE \$40.1 MILLION IN LOANS, CREATED OR RETAINED 1,187 JOBS AND PROVIDED OVER 18,140 FINANCIAL EDUCATION AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE HOURS.

bond include:

- Chicago Community Loan Fund (Chicago), \$28 million
- New Jersey Community Capital, (New Brunswick, NJ) \$28 million
- Bridgeway Capital (Pittsburgh, PA), \$15 million
- Community Ventures (Lexington, KY), \$15 million
- FAHE (Berea, KY), \$15 million
- Kentucky Highlands (London, KY), \$10 million

Enacted as part of the Small Business Jobs Act, the CDFI Bond Guarantee Program is an innovative federal credit program designed to function at zero cost to taxpayers. It provides eligible CDFIs access to long-term, fixed rate, affordable capital to encourage economic growth and development.

“The CPCDC is unique in the sense that we lend to Native Amer-

ican-owned firms and communities that would otherwise lack access to capital,” said Jett. “We, along with our fellow OFN organizations, have shown we are capable and responsible lenders, and this latest bond will be used to further our mission of promoting small businesses creation and expansion.”

On November 10, the CPCDC will also receive a \$100,000 Next Seed Capital Award from the OFN’s Wells Fargo Next Awards for Opportunity Finance. The award will go to further the CPCDC’s efforts to eradicate predatory lending in Native American communities in Oklahoma and across the CPN. The CPCDC will use the Next Seed Capital Award funds to expand its employee loan program, available to Tribal employees as well as launch home improvement and storm shelter construction loan programs.

The Wells Fargo NEXT Awards for Opportunity Finance distribute nearly \$6 million in funds to organizations who cater to the more than 25 percent of American households

forced to use high-cost financial products and services due to lack of responsible lenders.

“At Prudential, we’ve always been dedicated to helping people build long term financial security, and our support for the NEXT Awards is an expression of that commitment,” said Lata Reddy, vice president, Corporate Social Responsibility, Prudential Financial, Inc. “We’re proud to invest in the winning CDFIs and applaud their efforts to expand access to critical, affordable financial products and services in underserved communities. These organizations are helping create new pathways to prosperity where they are needed the most.”

Established in 2003, the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation provides financial products and counseling services to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation members and employees nationwide as well as Native American-owned businesses throughout Oklahoma.



Tribal member receives USMC Intel Award

Corey Lewis, a CPN member from Mokena, Illinois was recently named the Lance Cpl. James E. Swain Marine Corps Intelligence Enlisted Marine of the Year.



Potawatomi and Indigenous peoples take the lead in addressing climate change

By Kyle Powys Whyte, Ph.D., Timnick Chair in Humanities at Michigan State University

Climate change is the idea that the gradual warming in the average temperature of the earth will motivate impacts such as sea level rise, severe droughts, more extreme weather events and changes in plant and animal species. These impacts can be harmful to many people and communities. Climate change continues to be a controversial topic, but we have evidence that human activities such as burning coal and deforestation are responsible for a significant portion of the warming. Many people do not want to take the responsibility to change how they live in order to avoid imposing these harms to future people.

As Indigenous peoples, I don't think we should see climate change as anything that is particularly new for us as an important topic. In fact, we should understand that we have been part of this conversation about how to adapt to and take responsibility for the changing environment for a long time.

For example, our own Potawatomi ancestors lived according to seasonal rounds in which community members monitored changes from season to season, year-in and year-out, in order to know how and when to cultivate and harvest subsistence plants and animals for the survival of the community.

Potawatomi are not the only Indigenous peoples who lived this way. This fact may explain why Indigenous peoples in North America are among those most concerned with climate change. Alaska Native villages, such as Kivalina, are permanently relocating due to sea level rise.

Yet also for us Potawatomi, this is sadly familiar, as we are not strangers to relocation. CPN member Robin Wall Kimmerer, Ph.D., an ecology professor at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in New York notes that "Once again, we are in a situation of forced climate change adaptation. We can think of how we can draw on the resilience of our ancestors...who experienced dramatic climate change produced by removal from our traditional homelands. That is what we need together is resilience."

In many regards, the climate is expected to change in a manner as dramatic as the changes experienced by our Potawatomi ancestors forced from the shores of Lake Michigan to the rolling plains of Oklahoma.

It's not only about Potawatomi history though. Absentee Shawnee Tribal member Paulette Blanchard, now a doctoral student at the University of Kansas, recently completed interviews of participants from 33 tribes in and around the south central region for her master's degree at the University of Oklahoma. The



Kyle Whyte lecturing at the University of Illinois Springfield in 2015.

interviewees expressed concerns about climate change relating to their perspectives of water quantity and quality, changes in weather patterns with increasing extreme events, and cultural, economic and environmental sustainability.

Potawatomi of all bands are taking leadership everywhere on climate change. CPN member Mike Dockry, a scientist for the U.S. Forest Service, spent 10 years working with the Sustainable Development Institute at the College of Menominee Nation in Keshena, Wisconsin where he helped organize several large conferences on climate change attended by tribes from all over North America. In his current job, he works with tribes in the Great Lakes region on how to best plan for climate change. His research is showing that Native people often understand climate change as a symptom showing that our human relationships with the natural world and each other have been damaged and need to be renewed.

Prairie Band Potawatomi member Ma'Ko'Quah Abigail Jones, who has a bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College and a master's degree from Vermont Law School, served as a student leader of the Center for Environmental Leadership Training, of the Climate Institute in Washington D.C and organized a tribal climate change conference at Dartmouth. She is currently researching climate change policies and Indigenous communities who face displacement and relocation.

The Forest County Potawatomi Tribe hired Tansey Smith, a member of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, as their sustainability coordinator where she oversees a climate change planning project. Smith received her master's

degree in environmental law and policy from Vermont Law School.

The environmental department of the Nottawaseppi Huron Potawatomi recently worked climate change into their educational programs and environmental programs, such as one on wild rice for youth.

Our Neshnabé relatives in the Great Lakes region are taking important steps too. Karen Diver, Chair of the Fond du Lac Ojibwe, served on the

U.S. President's State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force On Climate Preparedness and Resilience. The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians adopted the Kyoto Protocol, a former global agreement seeking to reduce emissions. The Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa and the Red Lake Nation created their own climate change plans, while the Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians was recently recognized as a Climate Action Champion for their work on climate change planning and energy savings.

It seems clear that Potawatomi and other Indigenous peoples are taking climate change seriously. Native people from throughout North America and the world are forming networks to learn from each other, contribute to research and lead climate change thought.

For doing so is connected to our sovereignty, quality of life, heritage and a way of being responsible for future generations.

Kyle Powys Whyte, Ph.D., is an enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and holds the Timnick Chair in the Humanities in the Department of Philosophy at Michigan State University. He is a faculty member of the Environmental Philosophy & Ethics graduate concentration and serves as a faculty affiliate of the American Indian Studies and Environmental Science & Policy programs. His primary research addresses moral and political issues concerning climate policy and Indigenous peoples and the ethics of cooperative relationships between Indigenous peoples and climate science organizations.

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In under a decade, tribal gaming boosted state government revenues more than \$1 billion

By Patrick B. McGuigan, Editor The City Sentinel

The article below was reprinted from the October 2015 edition of The City Sentinel.

Revenues generated by the Oklahoma Tribal Gaming Act, passed by state citizens in a 2004 referendum, have become an important part of budget planning for the state government, according to an analysis of gaming compliance data documents.

Often frustrated with apologia for hefty federal spending even decades ago, the late U.S. Senator Everett Dirksen of Illinois used to say, "A billion here, and a billion there, and pretty soon you're talking real money."

When it comes to Indian gaming, the impact is a cumulative \$1 billion to boost state coffers in the last decade, and billions annually in broader economic impact. That's real money.

For a non-economist, the impact easiest to monitor is found in the Oklahoma Gaming Compliance Unit Annual Report. The report is prepared by an arm of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services, part of the executive branch run by Governor Mary Fallin.

Oklahoma has 39 federally recognized Native American tribes. Of that number, 33 tribes have established gaming compacts. Under the various State-Tribal gaming compacts,



Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association

'compacted' tribes pay a monthly "exclusivity fee" to our state government. This assures the tribes a sole right to operate compacted gaming.

For the various covered electronic games at Indian casinos in the Sooner State, fees are calculated based on 4 percent of the first \$10 million in adjusted gross revenues, 5 percent of the next \$10 million in AGR, and then 6 percent of all revenues over \$20 million.

As for the table games, the fee is 10 percent of monthly "net win."

According to the Oklahoma Gaming Compliance Unit Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2014, (ok.gov/OSF/documents/gamecompannreport14.pdf), the state collected \$122,621,628 last fiscal year. Although this was below the total in both FY 2013 (\$128.1 million) and FY 2012 (\$123.0 million) it was nonetheless higher than the sum garnered in FY 2011 and in all previous years.

To sum up, as of the latest available data, Oklahoma's compacted tribes had paid the state \$979.7 million in exclusivity fees since 2006. When total fees for the recently concluded Fiscal Year 2015 are incorporated, the total payment of exclusivity fees since 2006 will surpass \$1 billion, in this writer's projection.

In all, Oklahoma has 124 gaming operations owned and operated by Native American tribes, ranging from casinos, hotels and resorts, other facilities, including restaurants and bars, spas, recreational vehicle parks, and golf courses.

From recent reports, analysts project more than \$4 billion in tribal gaming revenue in 2014. Oklahoma gaming revenues have risen faster than the national average.

In the state, gaming operations have created more than 23,277 jobs, most of those fulltime with benefits including health care and other ben-

efits such as dental, retirement, and life insurance.

While tribal facilities have some tax exemptions, total payroll taxes paid at Indian Gaming facilities exceeds \$200 million and, that is likely a low estimate.

Most employees at these institutions pay the same state and federal taxes as other Oklahomans. The tribes withhold state income taxes as do other businesses.

Industry analysts maintain that most employees in tribal gaming operations are not citizens of the tribes. Even those with exemptions exercise them under limited conditions. Tribal operations yield significant revenues for federal coffers, and for such programs as Social Security and Medicare.

Gaming operations result in both direct and indirect spending as part of the Oklahoma economy.

Industry insiders assert over \$1 billion in gaming spending with other businesses; and more than another \$1 billion in spending by employees of the gaming facilities.

Taken as a whole, direct and indirect economic impacts from Oklahoma Indian gaming are certain to exceed more than \$5 billion annually.

Tall Chief receives distinguished alumni award from University of Central Oklahoma

As the third largest public university in the state, the University of Central Oklahoma boasts a long list of notable alumni, including 2007 Miss America Lauren Nelson and CEO and Chairman for AT&T, Randall Stephenson. To recognize these and many others during the past 50 years, the Edmond, Oklahoma-based institution has honored its outstanding former graduates with its UCO Distinguished Alumni Award. A designated committee selects recipients based on peer recommendations and notable accomplishments throughout their professional careers. In 2015, CPN Director of Health Services Tim Tall Chief was among those to receive the award.

"UCO has been a piece of my life since I was in the first grade," said Tall Chief. "My parents met there, I met my wife there and my son graduated from there. It's where I went to grade school and eventually graduated with my master's."

Tall Chief graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology in 1971 and a master's degree in counseling psychology in 1978. As the director of health services for CPN, he is tasked with overseeing the ex-

tensive network of Tribal clinics and wellness services. For the past 24 years he has maintained a faculty appointment at the University of Oklahoma and is the CEO of Outdoor Adventures Unlimited Inc.

"This award is very special to me because UCO has been such a huge part of my life," said Tall Chief. "The school has shaped an awful lot of who I am and this award is an honored punctuation for me as I move toward the end of my career."

If you would like to learn more about the 2015 UCO Distinguished Alumni Awards please visit www.centralconnection.org.



To read about the career and life of Tim Tall Chief, scan here.



CPN Director of Health Services Tim Tall Chief

Pokagon Band Potawatomi break ground on tribal village in Michigan

The below article is reprinted with the express written permission of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Public Information Department.

In late August 2015, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians announced that the tribe had broken ground on Pokégnek Édawat Hartford, its new tribal village near Hartford, Michigan.

The Pokagon Band's ten county service area includes four counties in southwestern Michigan and six in northern Indiana. Its main adminis-

trative offices are located in Dowagiac, Michigan with a satellite office in South Bend, Indiana. It has approximately 5,000 enrolled tribal citizens.

"Pokégnek Édawat Hartford is the latest milestone in our mission to assist Elders, youth, and families with housing, community and self-sufficiency for a better quality of life," said John P. Warren, Chairman of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians. "We have 39 families on the waiting list for homes in Hartford, so the demand is high. We look forward to completing the additional phases



Members of the Pokagon Band Tribal and Elders Council break ground on a their housing development in Hartford, Michigan in August 2015.



A rendering of one of the future town homes in the Pokagon village.

to serve our families in need."

The first phase of the project is expected to be completed in spring 2016 and will include eight homes consisting of townhomes and two duplexes. Two additional phases are planned at Pokégnek Édawat Hartford which will include more homes, a community center, and a park. Half of the homes will be designated for tribal elders. Some of units will feature handicap accessible designs that include roll in shower units, lowered counters, sinks and cook tops. They also feature under-the-counter microwaves, four foot wide doorways, more electrical outlets in the master

suite for charging medical equipment and larger garages for special vehicles.

The homes in Pokégnek Édawat Hartford are managed by the Pokagon Housing and Facilities Department. It offers Pokagon Citizens assistance with home ownership, loans, lease-to-own opportunities, and rental and homeless prevention programs.

The Pokagon Band also has 66 homes, a community center, and health center in Pokégnek Édawat Dowagiac.

"Rainmaker" honored at National Indian Health Board Consumer Conference

Chances are, if you've used a Citizen Potawatomi Nation program, voted in a Tribal election or visited one of the health clinics, you've been impacted by the work of a person known in Tribal Chairman John Barrett's office as "The Rainmaker."

Self-Governance Director Rhonda Butcher, who has played an integral part in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's transition into a self-governance Tribe since 1998, was recently honored by the National Indian Health Board at its annual consumer conference. According to a release from the NIHB, Butcher received a 2015 National Impact Award "for all her dedication and tireless work in the advancement of health policy affecting American Indian and Alaska Natives."

"I'm really touched," said Butcher. "I have always considered it an honor to work for the health and well-being of our Indian people. While seeing lives improved is the highest award, recognition such



Rhonda Butcher with CPN Health Services Director Tim Tall Chief, who accepted the NIHB award on her behalf during a recent trip to Washington D.C.

as this by my peers really means a lot. I truly appreciate it."

A registered nurse and former healthcare consultant from Shawnee, Oklahoma, Butcher joined Citizen Potawatomi Nation following her consultations with the Tribe as it prepared to negotiate self-governance

compacts with the federal Indian Health Services and Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1998. In the years since Butcher joined the Tribe, CPN Health Services have expanded to two full-service clinics for Native Americans of all tribes, including spouses of Potawatomi and CPN employees.

As Chairman Barrett commented in a April 2014 *Hownikan* article about Butcher's work, "Rhonda had worked as a consultant for the Absentee Shawnee, and I had asked her thoughts on our operations as we entered negotiations with the BIA and IHS. After meeting with her, I knew we couldn't pass up the opportunity to bring someone as skilled and knowledgeable as Rhonda on board. Looking solely at our CPN Health Services as they are today is a pretty good indicator that we made the right decision."

The National Indian Health Board represents tribal governments who operate their own health care delivery systems and those receiving care directly from Indian Health Service by providing a variety of services to tribes, health and federal agencies and private foundations. It monitors federal regulations, consults and promotes Indian health care issues at the national level.

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Citizen Potawatomi Corey Lewis receives USMC Intel Award

The photos of Potawatomi service members on the Veterans' Wall of Honor inside the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center are a testament to the willingness of Tribal members to serve in the nation's armed forces. Following a path that hundreds of fellow Potawatomi have tread, has been Mokena, Illinois-native Corey Lewis, a member of the U.S. Marine Corps since 2011.

Lewis was recently in Washington D.C. to receive recognition for his service during a tour of duty in Afghanistan as the 2014 recipient of the Lance Cpl. James E. Swain Marine Corps Intelligence Enlisted Marine of the Year Award.

"It was truly the culminating point in my military career. I was glad that all that extra effort I put in paid

off in the long run," Lewis said.

Lance Cpl. Swain was a Marine intelligence specialist killed in action in Fallujah, Iraq in 2004. According to the Marine Corps, the award is for enlisted Marines who "best exemplify intelligence excellence, innovation and demonstrate dedication to mission accomplishment within the operating forces."

"I didn't even know I was nominated until I got it," conceded Lewis. "One day one of my staff sergeants texted me 'congrats'."

Following his graduation from basic training, Lewis attended the Navy and Marine Corps Intelligence Training Center. In July 2012, he was assigned to the Southwest Analysis Reach Back Element, providing support to the Regional Command Southwest Afghanistan during his



Cpl C. A. Lewis

six month tour of duty in that country. Amongst the numerous awards and commendations he has been awarded, Lewis is a recipient of the

Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medal for his tour of duty in Helmand, Afghanistan.

Also like many before him, Lewis can tell you the exact amount of days he has left in his current term of service, which at time of print will be just more than 300 days. He says he plans on finishing up his current enlistment and is in the process of applying to college, hoping to attend the University of Iowa in pursuit of either a history or psychology degree.

"I have two career routes right now. I'm either going to go FBI, which I might lean more towards the historical and psychology degrees, or I'll just go back to firefighting, which was what my original plan was," he said.

OSU leads the way in tribal sovereignty with opening of Center for Sovereign Nations

In the heart of Cowboy country, tribal sovereignty has a new home at the Oklahoma State University Center for Sovereign Nations. Initially funded through a partnership between OSU and the Chickasaw Nation, it will be a home for Native American students and those wanting to learn more about the role of Indian Nations in Oklahoma.

"The center will serve students from the 39 sovereign nations in Oklahoma," said OSU President Burns Hargis in a press release at the August opening ceremony. "As a land-grant institution, Oklahoma State University has an important role to play in creating initiatives to increase engagement and educational opportunities. We hope this center will not only strengthen relationships between the university and sovereign tribal nations, but will also increase the number of American Indian graduates from OSU."

The center aims to increase the number of Native American graduates at Oklahoma State University, build partnerships with the state's 39 federally recognized tribes and promote increased understanding of sovereignty as it pertains to Native Americans, their cultures and governments.

Leading the center is Director Elizabeth Mee Payne, a graduate of Oklahoma University College of Law. Payne worked in private legal practice and was a corporate executive before coming to OSU more than five years ago. Her husband, John Chaney, is a Muscogee Creek citizen, a regent's professor and director for OSU's Center for American Indian Studies.

"Consistent with OSU's land grant mission and with President Hargis'



The staff of the OSU Center for Sovereign Nations.

support, we began reaching out to tribal leaders to focus our service to the nations in Oklahoma," explained Payne. "President Hargis' vision was supported by Provost Gary Sandefur, a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation, and Associate Provost Pamela Fry who lend their ongoing support and leadership to this center."

The center's mission is not an easy one despite its presence in a state where residents pride themselves on Oklahoma's ties to Native America, but where comprehension of issues central to Indian Country are not well understood.

"Our center is charged with promoting an understanding of tribal sovereignty," said Payne. "I had this notion that there was an awareness gap between what Oklahomans generally understand and what was historically and contemporaneously accurate when it comes to sovereignty. It's my personal mission to close that gap through education, programming

and by being an ambassador and advocate."

Payne is effusive in emphasizing the role of tribal sovereignty as a foundational principle to all relations with Indian Nations in Oklahoma.

"Only after tribal sovereignty is understood, can the respect that is due be effectively paid to the nations and their citizens," she said. "OSU's Center for Sovereign Nations is charged with the mission of educating and advocating for that understanding."

Payne says the center's strategy will focus on engaging tribal leaders from across Oklahoma on how best to meet its goals.

"We're a partnership center, so we serve our students with the guidance of our partners. We have an ongoing interest in understanding whether additional nations would want to partner with us because, while OSU has expertise in graduating students,

the nations have expertise in higher education more broadly because they partner with a number of universities. That really allows us to become more effective in serving these nations and their students while they're on our campus."

Payne is a Riata Fellow teaching American Indian entrepreneurship at the university's prestigious Spears School of Business. This background provides her an opportunity to forge connections between the entrepreneurial focus of her classroom and research work with the center's mission of supporting Oklahoma's tribal nations.

"We focus on programs that train American Indian entrepreneurs and those who want to partner with them," she explained. "In the class we provide content and structure, but then I bring in people who have started their own businesses to show our students what is possible."

Tying that mission into Indian Country, which in recent years has been home to a number of successful entrepreneurial initiatives like Chickasaw Nation Industries, Choctaw Defense and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Community Development Corporation, will likely be a future driver of economic development in Oklahoma.

Payne and center coordinator Sky Rogers, a Choctaw Citizen, run the day-to-day operations with the assistance of student staffers, all of whom are tribal citizens themselves. To learn more about the Center for Sovereign Nation's mission and activities, visit <https://sovnationcenter.okstate.edu/> or email sovnationcenter@okstate.edu for more information.

Grand Casino Hotel hosts Pottawatomie County emergency response training

First responders from numerous Pottawatomie County-based organizations gathered near Grand Casino Hotel Resort to practice for various emergency situations in late September 2015. Though operating at full speed, the emergency management professionals were only practicing a worst case scenario as part of a training program held once every three years.

The 2015 Pottawatomie County LEPC HazMat Full Scale Exercise is a multi-agency practice run for emergency responders, with eight organizations represented. Members of the Shawnee Fire Department and HazMat, REACT, the Oklahoma Department of Health, the American Red Cross, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Emergency Management, the McLoud Fire Department and the Medical Reserve Corps were all present. Other emergency managers from across Pottawatomie County served as evaluators for the exercise’s participants.

“Police officers, firefighters and paramedics, they’re all out here. We’ve even got the medical helicopter on site,” said CPN Safety Director Tim Zientek. “This exercise gives the fire



McLoud Fire preparing to remove the passenger from the rolled vehicle during the exercise.

fighters an opportunity to conduct a rescue of this victim who is trapped in the car, and gives all first responders the chance to practice working on a hazardous material cleanup. This whole time, they’re being evaluated on their actions and be mentored on what they need to improve on,” explained Zientek as the exercise took place.”

This year’s event featured a scenario of an automobile carrying chlo-

rine gas that had a rollover accident on the interstate with a passenger pinned inside.

“It’s important to practice communications, specifically in terms of one department understanding how another department will respond and act during an emergency situation,” Zientek continued. “They need to find those stumbling blocks and remove them in a practice scenario rather than deal with it in a real-life

emergency.”

The exercise is intended to give the first responders a real experience without the threat of injury. It is held once every three years, with the 2012 version taking place at the Shawnee Municipal Airport. This is the first time the exercise has been held on Tribal property, and Zientek hopes that is a practice that will continue.

“If at all possible we’d like to continue this. We are a part of this community that looks out for our neighbors. We want to train with the first responders because in many cases, our people are the first ones on scene. I would like to personally thank the Grand for hosting, feeding and helping us out with this year’s exercise.”

With all of the traffic that goes through Interstate 40 and State Highway 177, scenarios like the one practiced at the Grand are based off of real-life situations. In areas with smaller populations compared to larger metropolitan areas like Oklahoma City, county emergency response efforts draw on a host of smaller communities and agencies as well as more prominent ones like the American Red Cross.

CPN football camp regular battles cancer while staying on the field

Stories like that of Kansas City Chiefs safety Eric Berry, who made a comeback to the NFL after being diagnosed with Hodgkin’s lymphoma in 2014, offers hope and inspiration to those battling their own health issues. Closer to home, a participant in the annual Day of Champions Football Camp at CPN has been waging a similar battle while staying out on the gridiron.

Diagnosed with stage three prostate cancer at the age of nine, Trevor Storie spent 42 weeks in chemotherapy and six weeks of proton radiation to treat Rhabdomyosarcoma, or RMS, a rare malignant tumor involving striated muscle tissue, it is very rare in children his age.

Storie has been a participant of the Day of Champions Football Camp hosted by CPN for the past four years. The camp was founded by former collegiate football coach Ken Heupel and son, Josh, the 2000 national champion from the University of Oklahoma and current offensive coordinator at Utah State University. Though he’d become a regular at the July event, in 2014 Storie was not able to participate due to his cancer treatment.

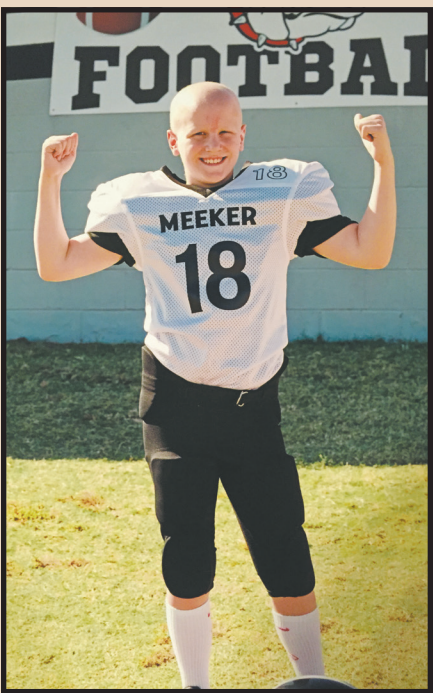
“Last year he was going through treatment and wasn’t able to stay at the camp but he did his best for what he could do,” said Trevor’s mother, Zona Storie.

Sarah Lawerance, CPN fitness instructor and coordinator of the camps asked him to come and be the music DJ in the announcer’s box so he could still be a part of the camp.

“He was so weak that it took a lot of energy for him to walk up the stairs,” said Lawerance. “After about an hour and a half he was exhausted, but Josh Heupel signed a football and put an encouraging quote on it as well as a Bible verse.”

At one point in his treatment Storie wore leg braces as a result of his chemotherapy treatments. He went from an extremely physically active child to one who was hardly able to walk. After battling the disease throughout most of 2014, Storie received a cancer free diagnosis in October of that year.

“The one thing that has really stuck with me was when he was sick and throwing up and going through chemotherapy, he always chose to focus on one good thing that happened to him that day,” said his mother. “Everything is going great



While under going chemotherapy Treovr was still able to suit up with his football team.

now and he’s doing really well.”

Football is the activity that Storie loves the most. A year before his diagnosis he played his first season for a Pop Warner football team out of Meeker, Oklahoma. At this year’s camp, Trevor was able to participate in all of the activities and looks to be on the field in July 2016.

“To see Trevor excel in the 2015 camp like he did was amazing,” said



Trevor was diagnosed cancer free in October 2014.

Lawerance. “It was a privilege for all of us to see the determination and fight in him and he is an inspiration to all of us.”

“He loves learning and the coaches at the camp interact with the kids so well,” said Zona Storie. “I think it’s really great for the community to get involved in the camp. The coaches don’t just teach football, they teach the kids nutrition, discipline and how to overcome challenges in our lives.”

Wadase update: November 2015

By Bree Dunham, CPN Eagle Aviary

233 days is the equivalent of seven months and three weeks. That's how long it has been since Wadasé Zhabwé has stopped for a visit at the aviary. The last time that she was here was January 23, 2015.

Studying her telemetry, we know that she flew over as she passed through on her return trip from the Keystone Dam area near Tulsa as she headed back to an area south of Lake Arcadia. At 2,000 feet though, we weren't able to see her. Without her GPS transmitter we would have never known she was anywhere close to the aviary. We continued to monitor her telemetry and had made arrangements to go out on horseback along the North Canadian River where she has been staying for the better part of the summer. We had made several trips to the area and spent long hours searching the sky and tree line for a glimpse of her with no luck. The area has few roads into the places she frequented and not knowing that section of river well, we opted to go on horseback in mid-September. However, Wadasé had other plans. In the afternoon on September 13, 2015 we heard the eagles calling and spotted what we at first thought was an adult bald eagle flying out over the aviary. We hurried into the office to get binoculars just in time to see that eagle land on Wadasé's crook in the pecan tree out front. We could hardly believe our eyes, even after checking to be sure the eagle was wearing telemetry and was banded. Wadasé Zhabwé was really home! Seeing all the telemetry points on a map are reassuring seeing her at the aviary after so long was one of the most rewarding moments for us since her release.

Even though we knew that she was maturing with each molt and that she would have a whiter head and tail, we were shocked at just how much her appearance changed. In flight, high above the aviary, she looked like an adult to the naked eye. You could see some dark on her tail but her head appeared almost completely white. We spent the evening peering out the office window. As the sun set that evening, we watched her fly down the creek towards the river. The next morning we came to the office well before sunrise. As the sun began to peak above the horizon,

(Aviary Director) Jennifer (Randell) stood on the sidewalk out front and called for her like she had done so many mornings when Wadasé was first released.

While we waited we agreed that we had been lucky to spend the evening with her. We questioned if her behavior had changed as much as her appearance had. Did she just wander here or had she flown straight home? Was she just passing through or would we see her again? Was she still comfortable here and does it feel like home to her or would we even have the chance to find out some of these answers? Just when we had decided that she was not around, she came flying in from the east pasture, low across the creek. She followed the tree line all around the pasture before banking and climbing up high above the aviary before coming in to land on her crook out front. She put on quite the show. She sat in her crook preening as the sun rose clearing the fog that had settled in the pasture. She flew to the top of the aviary and landed on the center beam forcefully and peered down at the eagles below. From the office we could hear her vocalize and watched the other eagles respond. It would seem

that she had not forgotten her surrogate family here.

From time to time throughout the day the eagles would call as they watched her take short flights around the aviary from one tree to the next. She spent the biggest portion of the day at the aviary grounds as if she had never left, certainly not like it had been gone more than half of a year. But we could see a difference in Wadasé. Watching her fly, it was apparent that she was so much more confident and



Flying low around the aviary at sunrise greeting us with the opportunity to capture this moment as she made a photo pass around the pasture.

strong. She moved with precision and skill that we had not seen from her in the past. She spent more time perched above the creek as she preferred to hunt for her meals here now. She really has matured and grown.

She continued this same routine for days, greeting us at sunrise. However, on September 22, she spent the better part of the day away from the aviary. Late that evening, just a little after 7 p.m., she came in from the river. Perched high in the pecan out front she would occasionally chatter a bit and just before dark she headed towards the river once again. Perhaps she was saying goodbye because we didn't see her the next day.

Checking her telemetry, we know she did in fact come directly home, in a short two hour flight from the area south of Lake Arcadia. While she was here, she seldom got more than a half mile from the aviary.

When she left that morning she headed back towards Harrah, Oklahoma and stopped along the North Canadian River in an area where she has been several times before. While she was here at the aviary, several tour groups had the opportunity to see her, including a group of the CPN Tribal youth as they worked in the community garden located on the aviary grounds. We are happy to know this place still feels like home and that we have the opportunity to continue to tell her story as she continues to defy the odds and carry our prayers to Mamogoshnan.



Meth and suicide prevention grant vital for Tribal youth staff’s outreach to community

According to the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics, the Sooner State has been a national leader in terms of methamphetamine use since the early 1990s. Additionally, Oklahoma was ranked tenth highest among all states for the number of suicide deaths per capita, according to the 2012 figures available from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

While the causes of these issues are not simple, one CPN program is helping to raise awareness about their prevalence in the communities surrounding the Tribal jurisdiction. The FireLodge Tribal Youth program recently acquired the Meth and Suicide Prevention Initiative Grant for the sixth consecutive year.

“There is a large methamphetamine and suicide issue in Pottawatomie County,” said FireLodge Tribal Youth Program Coordinator Darin Greene. “The staff and I present community education on suicide and meth use. We go to the local schools around CPN and identify the problems with the two topics, talk to the kids about ways of preventing it and explain how they can help others.”

SIGNS OF METH ABUSE AND SUICIDE

SIGNS OF METH ABUSE	SIGNS OF SUICIDE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Change in relationships with family, friends, others• Loss of inhibitions• Mood changes or emotional instability• Periods of sleeplessness, increased activity• Hostile, angry, uncooperative, deceitful, or secretive behavior• Changes in speech, inability to speak intelligibly• Loss of interest in favorite activities, hobbies• Missing work or school	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unusual preoccupation with death• Gathering tools and/or information that could be used to harm oneself• Making efforts to put affairs in order• Contacting friends to say goodbye• Giving away favorite possessions• Loss of interest in favorite things• Expression of self-loathing, hopelessness or worthlessness

Information provided by **Indian Health Service** - www.ihs.gov

Each staff member at the P.L.A.C.E. is certified in the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills , or ASIST, program as a gatekeeper. The Tribal youth staff goes through the ASIST program to help prepare them become gatekeepers, who are professionally-trained to recognize warning signs that someone may be contemplating suicide or using illicit drugs.

Quite often the roles of the staff in-

volve listening to the kids at the schools and what they have on their mind. The P.L.A.C.E. staff discusses the dangers of drug and alcohol use, risk indicators of suicide and focusing on healthy cultural lifestyles as a way to cope with stress or peer pressure in daily activities with to the FireLodge Tribal youth. The after school program has more than 50 participants this year alone. CPN Cultural Mentor Coby Lehman

and Academic Support Specialist Ben McAlister incorporate a cultural facet to the program by performing smudging ceremonies to rid the area that participants use from any negativity.

“This grant helps out a lot because it pays some of our staff members and the professional training we send them to,” said Greene. “Our mentors teach classes at local schools about preventing these things and we know our kids will go out into the community and teach their own friends.”

The P.L.A.C.E. is the only facility at CPN that uses this MSPI grant funds.

“I think that the program is just now beginning to grow, but the response so far has been outstanding,” said Greene. “If we do something here at the P.L.A.C.E., it’s going to be top notch and that’s what this program has been for us. If you can keep kids busy and their minds focused on positive things, that’s how you help prevent them from falling into these problems.”

For more information about the MSPI program please visit www.ihs.gov/mspi/.

Healthy eating tips for the holidays

Every year the Center for Disease Control and Prevention releases statistics on the health of Americans across the country. Repeating the trend of years past, the number one leading cause of death in 2015 for men and women is heart disease. Coronary heart disease is the most common form, brought on by several unhealthy lifestyle choices. Physical inactivity, poor diet and smoking are just several of the factors attributed to the disease. Indian Health Services states over 80 percent of Native Americans are obese. With the holiday season in full swing, it can be easy to overeat and help fuel these grave statistics.

CPN Healthy Heart Dietitian, Torrie Fuller MS RD/LD, sees patients on a daily basis trying to live a healthier lifestyle.

“This holiday season before leaving for a party, eat a light snack like raw vegetables or a piece of fruit to curb your appetite,” said Fuller. “Try not to skip meals so you will be less tempted to over-indulge.”

“Make half of your plate fruits and vegetables. This will help limit your overall calorie content of your meal. It only takes 500 calories per day above normal food consumption to gain one pound,” continued Fuller.

Exercise helps relieve holiday stress and prevent weight gain. A brisk walk once or twice a day can alleviate stress on the mind and stomach.

“Use smaller plates when eating at a buffet or holiday gathering to help control portion size and calories,” said Fuller. “Eat until you are satisfied, not stuffed. Savor your favorite holiday treats while eating small portions. If you overeat at one meal, go light on the next.”

For those looking to take healthy eating to the next level, they can try out a whole food, plant-based Thanksgiving recipe or meal. A whole food, plant-based diet is based on fruits, vegetables, root vegetables, whole grains and legumes. The diet excludes meat, dairy, eggs and overly processed foods. This type of lifestyle change has been proven to be cost-effective, lower body mass index, blood pressure and cholesterol levels.

Preparing favorite dishes lower in fat and calories will help promote healthy holiday eating.

For Thanksgiving stuffing recipes, using less bread and adding more vegetables and fruits like onions, garlic and celery will cut some of the added carbs from the dish. Cooking with skinless, roasted turkey breast will help prevent added saturated fat to a meal. Skim milk or chicken broth will also decrease saturated fat

foodandhealth.com/communications

ChooseMyPlate.gov

MAKE HEALTHY HOLIDAY PLATES

Healthy Plate Tips For Holiday Survival

- * Fill appetizer plates with vegetables.
- * Keep healthy snacks with you when you are on the go.
- * Fill dessert plates with fruits.
- * Make a healthy plate for lunch and dinner.
- * Eat a healthy snack plate with fruits and vegetables before going to parties.

Vegetables	Fruits	Grains	Protein	Dairy
Fill half your plate with fruits and veggies in holiday colors.	Fruits add color, spirit and flavor to desserts.	Make stuffings with whole grain bread and brown rice.	Turkey breast is always the leanest holiday choice. Keep the gravy low in fat.	Yogurt makes a great party dip. Blend skim milk with bananas to make a healthy, smoothie-like banana nog.

Healthy holiday eat tips from the USDA's Choose My Plate initiative.

from mashed potatoes as opposed to using whole milk and butter. Topping cakes with fresh fruit instead of processed food can make desserts lighter and healthier.

For more information on healthy holiday eating tips please visit www.choosemyplate.gov.

FireLodge Tribal Youth update: November 2015

By Darin Greene, FireLodge Tribal Youth Coordinator

November the Tribal youth will celebrate Native American Heritage Month by starting an Indigenous fitness program. In hopes of helping our youth get in better shape and stay that way, this 30-day program is a physical challenge including squats, bridges, lunges, sit ups, wall sits and planks. The goal is to start small and go higher each day, with the youth keeping their own statistics and marking progress.

Their personal investment in the program will hopefully set a good precedent for them to continue exercising and staying fit after the program officially ends.

In other, less demanding physical exertions, our intramural sports for November will be the lacrosse, four-square tournaments and a spades tournament.

The youth also will be recognizing Native American Heritage Month in



Bradley Grubbs and Harley Sample enjoy a game of mini putt during a day out for the Tribal youth.

November by studying several tribes, beginning with the Potawatomi's original neighbors in the Great Lakes region and the following up closer to home with a focus on southeastern tribes, many of whom are our neighbors here in Oklahoma.

Our "Get Native" programs for the

month were a Native American Art contest, a Native American Essay contest with a theme of "Who am I?" and drum making and drumming demonstrations.

We will also be beginning a Native American social dance program that will ultimately see the youth form a

dance group that practices regularly and one day, performs at events.

Staff from the CPN Diabetes Initiative will be visiting the youth ahead of the holiday feast season to perform a healthy cooking demonstration, while the health professionals from the CPN Healthy Heart program spoke to the youth about how to choose the healthiest food options.

To finish up the month along gastrointestinal lines, the Tribal youth program will host its annual community Thanksgiving Dinner, with plans to feed more than 200 youth and adults who will attend.

All the while, our academic support specialists continue to oversee our after-school tutoring program, which also keeps track of our students' academic progress.

If you would like to learn more about FireLodge Tribal Youth Program or the P.L.A.C.E., please contact me at dgreene@potawatomi.org.

Language with Justin: November 2015

By Justin Neely, Director of the CPN Language Department

As we move into fall, the language department has been busy. We have already released our Beginner I self-paced language course. To access the course go to <http://language.potawatomi.org>.

Once you sign up, you have to wait for us to confirm you. By the time this edition of the *Hownikan* comes out we will have released our second version Beginner II. We will be working concurrently on an Intermediate Course and Kid's Course which we hope to make available in the next couple of months, the latter of which will be available first.

We have a number of individuals working hard in the language department to make this possible. Ted Isham is doing the background work and getting the Moodle website ready along with giving his own perspective on teaching from his years of working with the Creek language. Michael Kelehar is our videographer and is working hard to help us create innovative and exciting videos to make learning the language more engaging. Enedina Banks is helping to fine tune our glossary and games section as well as proofing our power points. We hope the additional games will make the language learning experience more fun. Ivan Ozbolt is helping construct our quizzes and tests as well as assisting Ted with the conversion of some of our video formats. Without the hard work of all these diligent and dedicated employees we would not be able to make these self-paced classes available.

Please take an opportunity to try out our online self-paced classes. They are available free of charge and can be accessed from your home computer or from your phone. There is no start and finish time. They are truly at your own pace. We have lots of fun culture teachings mixed into the language learning. The more you learn our language the deeper sense you will gain of what it means to be Potawatomi.

Our unique stories, blood, history, art, food, dance, songs and ceremonies make us Potawatomi, but our language is the thread which ties it all together. As you embark in an effort to learn your language, you will gain a deeper sense of what was and is important to our Potawatomi people.

In addition to our online classes, we are continue our in-person teaching with our elders on Wednesdays and students at the CPN Child Development Center every Tuesday and Thursday. Each week on the CPN Facebook Page, Citizen Potawatomi Nation, and Twitter account, @C_P_N, we share a 'word of the week.' So you can learn at home in time for the fall feasting season, here are a few Potawatomi words and phrases to practice at home.

Migwetch.

Dgwaget kedwnen - Fall words

Dgwaget- It's fall (Dugwahget)

Datbek- Leaf (Daht buck)

Datbekwen- Leaves (Daht buck win)

Bnakwi- Leaves falling (Buh nak wee)

Watebgya- Leaves are changing color (Wah tub gyah)



Migwetch gishget - Thanksgiving

Wabgon - Pumpkin (Wahb gone)

Mawdoshkegen - Rake (Mow doesh kay gihn)

Mtegmen - Acorn (Mtugmen)

Sengo - Squirrel (Singoe)

Sengoyek - Squirrels (Singoe yuck)

Waboyan - Blanket (Wah bow yan)

Tkeyamget - It's cool (Tkay yam get)

Zet pkwakwet - Football (Zit pkwah quit)

Mseze - Turkey (Muh suh say)

Mishkon - Hay (Meesh kone)

Ziwabo - Cider (Zee wah bow)

Seksi - Deer

Seksik - Deer

Giwse - He/She hunts

Seksi giwsewen - Deer hunting (i.e. Deer hunting season)

Migwetch gishget - Thanksgiving (Thanks Day)

Wabgon Pie - Pumpkin pie (*There is no word for pie that isn't descriptive of each type)

Mshimen Pie - Apple pie

Short prayer for Thanksgiving

Nwi-madmo (I am going to pray)

Mamogosnan Migwetch ode wisnewen (Thank you God for this food)

Migwetch jayek emawjeshnok ngom (Thank you for everyone gathered here today)

Nishokmeshnak mno bmadzeyak (Help us to live a good life)

Migwetch jak she gego ga gishtot mine mno gishget (Thank you for everything you have created and this nice day.)

Iw (Amen)

Potawatomi author interview: Amy Rose Herrick

In 2010, Kansas-native and Chartered Financial Consultant Amy Rose Herrick headed off for a new home in the Virgin Islands, a journey that allowed her to change locales but simultaneously maintain her stateside consultant practice. In the ensuing years, she has taken the opportunity to nourish her passion for teaching and writing. She has published several books, available in digital and print formats, on a wide range of topics that all touch on her personal experiences and expertise. Herrick spoke with the *Hownikan* about her background, her day-to-day work and the inspiration for her published works.

What Potawatomi family are you from?

“Josette Juneau is my recorded ancestor; however there were a lot of marriages through the years in the Juneau lineage with other founding Potawatomi families too.”

You’re originally from the Topeka area, but now reside in the U.S. Virgin Islands. What prompted that move?

“The short version is God gave my Pastor Varney a prophecy of some specific changes to come in my life in Sunday morning services on January 2, 2010. Randy, my spouse and I just looked at each other. It sounded like we were going to be living on a beach by the end of the year. This sounded really outlandish with our roots firmly in landlocked Kansas. We had nothing like that experience happen to us ever before.

“Was he talking to us? God laughed. He *was* talking to us. Within six months unexplainable things were happening. I flew alone thousands of miles away to an island I had never stepped foot on to talk to a man I had never met about buying his tiny mutual fund practice.

“The seller had been praying for a buyer in December 2009. By the end of 2010, we had sold or given away absolutely everything including our



Amy Rose Herrick

house. We moved here with only five shipped pallets of our old life that included my office, 12 suitcases, four children plus our family van. Even the family dog flew in.

“My assistant DeAnn is still with me operating out of her home office in Kansas. We know we are supposed to be here. It sounds so unbelievable, but it is all absolutely true. I still often gaze out at the view and repeat ‘I live in the Virgin Islands...’”

Your books’ subjects run the gamut, from poetry and photography to financial advice. Why such a wide range of topics?

“My professional skills developed over 30 years in the financial services field. I invest on an ongoing basis an enormous amount of time in higher levels of learning of simple to complex financial concepts.

“I see the same problems repeated

over and over in the comprehensive financial planning services I provide to clients in eighteen states and the Virgin Islands. The financial topic-related books are a way to educate the public on a larger scale, enabling readers to make wise informed choices. I authored financial advice articles and columns in the past making these books a natural way to share my professional knowledge with others.

“I love to teach. These books enable me to enhance the long term value of my group educational presentation services too.

“The British Virgin Island sailing book with haiku poetry and pictures was the result of two wonderful short trips sailing the nearby BVIs with a local couple on their catamaran. It was a dream come true, twice! Haiku style poetry was easy to capture a small impression of the experience tied to a picture solidifying a memo-

ry. When I showed it to someone on a Word document after I had written the financial books, they encouraged me to put it in print, so there it is. Is sailing into some tropical isles one of your dreams too? Then enjoy this title wherever you are.”

What brought about the writing for your book “25 Questions to Ask Before Remarriage.”

“I started with “25 Questions: Knowing Your Life Partner.” The feedback indicated a need for one focused on remarriage issues. That led to a request for a book focused on issues faced by those marrying later in life after retirement. One title became three because of the feedback I received on the first one.”

You’re a certified financial consultant, or ChFC. What got you interested in writing on subject that may not be directly connected to that profession?

“I have been a writer for years. There are some short stories published several years ago in Kansas you don’t see in these titles. I don’t feel that I have to limit my writing to one genre. I am a very creative person using this opportunity to write about what interests me. For now, I have over 100 titles on financial subjects I want to put down to share. Yes, over 100! There are many more books to come planned. Like you, there are only so many hours in my day.”

If you would like to learn more about Amy Rose Herrick, visit her author and public speaking website at www.MoneyWithAmy.com. For CPN members, Herrick is offering a limited time, 25 percent discount on digital downloads of her work from www.SmashWords.com. To access the discount codes or request an autographed print edition of one of her works email info@moneywith-amy.com

To learn more about Herrick’s securities and financial consulting work, visit www.AmyRoseHerrick.com.



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LOCATED INSIDE THE CPN CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER

CPN Veterans report: November 2015



By Daryl Talbot, Commander, CPN Veterans Organization

Bozho,

It finally happened. The Vietnam-era CPN Veterans Banquet was well attended on 26 September 2015 at the Grand Casino Hotel Resort in Shawnee, Oklahoma. Treasurer David Barrett was our master of ceremonies, and he did a masterful job.

Tribal Chairman John A. Barrett Vice-Chairman Linda Capps addressed the veterans being honored, with the vice-chairman giving a heartfelt thanks to the men and women who served our country during a very difficult time in its history. Chairman Barrett offered his thanks and presented a certificate to each veteran on behalf of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation for their service to our country and our countrymen. He also gave a very special presentation, gifting an eagle feather to each of the Tribal Veterans in attendance and a Red-tailed Hawk feather to the veteran spouses. Chairman Barrett smudged all of the veterans after they received their recognition.

A special award was presented to the veteran who was the oldest in attendance, the veteran who was the youngest, the veteran who had traveled the farthest to attend (Florida

was the winner) and the veteran who had served in more than one branch during the Vietnam Era (U.S Marine Corps and U.S. Navy...that was the Commander).

The banquet also recognized the attending Veterans of World War II and the Korean War. The colors and eagle staff were presented by me, David Barrett, the Treasurer; Bill Wano, the Secretary and Herb Holton, the Color Guard and Honor Guard Team Leader. Connie Barrett sang the National Anthem and the popular song, "Proud to be an American." Curtis Grant had prepared a special video on the Vietnam War and our special guest speaker was CPN Veteran and author, Robert Sander.

We had a lot of support from the CPN, the Tribal chairman and vice-chairman, the Grand Casino and several sponsors to make this event so very special. *Migwetch.*

Remember the CPN Veterans Organization meets every month on the fourth Tuesday at 6 p.m. (or as soon as you can get there) in the North Reunion Hall on the Potawatomi Powwow Grounds. All CPN and spouse veterans and their families are welcome. A meal is provided.



U.S. Army and Vietnam Veteran Theodore William Welfelt - Mkede Neka (Black Goose)



Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett smudges CPN veterans to begin the banquet.



CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION ST. GREGORY'S UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

IS THIS OPPORTUNITY RIGHT FOR YOU?

If you're a Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member and you meet the academic standards of St. Gregory's University, you may qualify for a full scholarship to earn your degree. Making this determination is the first step in the process.

WHICH DEGREE OPTION IS BEST FOR YOU?

Several degree options are funded by this scholarship. Whether you have previous college credit or are just starting out, you should meet with a CPN or SGU representative to determine which degree option is best for you.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE CPN AND SGU SCHOLARSHIP, VISIT

WWW.POTAWATOMI.ORG/IMAGES/SGU-CPN-DIGITAL.JPG

APPLICATION PROCESS

Once you've decided that St. Gregory's University is the right opportunity for you, then you will proceed to the application process.



Potawatomi performs at World Congress on Dance

With powwow season winding down, there is often talk about the dancers seen at competitions and exhibitions across North America during the summer months. The CPN Family Reunion Festival, Potawatomi Gathering of Nations and hundreds of other powwows across the U.S. and Canada draw dancers of all levels and tribes together. One Potawatomi dancing this summer was Maryland-based Tribal member J. Davis Hobdy, though he wasn't on the powwow circuit. The classically trained dancer and dance instructor was amongst those on the floor at the 2015 World Congress on Dance in Miami, Florida.

Hobdy spoke with the *Hownikan* about his participation in the annual event.

How did you get involved in performing the jazz dance at this year's World Congress on Dance Research?

"I was asked to perform a dance in the style which I presented for group workshop. As a specialist in jazz dance who was ranked among the top seven jazz dancers between the ages of 17-21 in the USA in 1986, I wanted to commemorate thirty years of teaching jazz dance with a solo that showcased its history in a short period of time.

"The song was "Dancin' with Myself" as sung by Kevin McHale from Glee. During this retrospec-



J David Hobdy performs at the World Congress on Dance.

tive of American jazz dance, I included some moves from social and ballroom dance which tied into the theme of the evening's events and the events marking the end of Amateur Ballroom Dance Week."

What's the significance of the event being held in the U.S. this year?

"This was the first time a section of CID-UNESCO has ever hosted a World Congress on Dance Research in the U.S. Congresses have previ-

ously been held in Canada, Cyprus, Greece, Russia, Japan and the Republic of San Marino to name a few, but never in the U.S."

Tell us a bit about your work at the County Dance Conservatory and how it relates to this event?

"As school director and owner of County Dance Conservatory in West River, Maryland, I attend these international Congresses on Dance Research to further promote the American dance forms of jazz and tap. Often, I take members of our teen and adult performing companies to present works at these events to serve as cultural ambassadors through dance.

"Due to the timing of this event, however, I had to attend, present and perform alone. As a result of my teaching and performance, I have been able to invite international guest instructors to work with our students and collaborate with dance studios throughout the world in future endeavors. I strive to enrich our students with a global knowledge of dance and other cultures so they may have a wider range of opportunities in dance and life once they leave our studio."

If you would like to learn more about J. Davis Hobdy or the County Dance Conservatory, please visit <http://countydanceconservatory.com/new/>.

Get moving during November's Diabetes Awareness Month

With temperatures cooling and a food-centric holiday like Thanksgiving on the horizon, November is an excellent time to focus on preventing diabetes, a chronic illness impacting 29 million Americans – or just more than nine percent of the country's population - according to the latest survey from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

An astounding 86 million Americans are estimated to have pre-diabetes, an affliction in which their blood sugar levels are higher than normal but not high enough to constitute a classification of Type 2 diabetes. In Native Americans, the statistics are even more stark, with nearly 15.9 percent over the age of 20 with diagnosed diabetes.

The CPN Diabetes Initiative's staff is on the front line of the battle to alleviate the complications arising from this chronic illness and prevent its spread.

"Education is power," emphasized CPN Diabetes Coordinator Betty Nicholson. "If people do not have the education on how to care for themselves in respect to their diagnosis of pre-diabetes or diabetes, how can they properly manage it? In our program we strive to educate on the disease process, how to eat



A healthy cooking demonstration at the FireLake Wellness Center.

healthy, teach the benefits of exercise and reinforce taking medications as the doctor has prescribed."

CPN dieticians run monthly healthy cooking demonstrations for Tribal members at the Title VI Elder Program kitchen located inside FireLake Wellness Center, giving attendees an opportunity to see the preparation and taste the fruits of their labor.

Certified foot care nurses see patients at least once annually, if not more frequently, to monitor changes in circulation and other complications arising from diabetes. Annual diabetic eye exams are also conducted, as vision impairment is another sign of health complications stemming from

diabetes or pre-diabetes.

"This is not just to get glasses but to evaluate for potential problems such as diabetic retinopathy, macular edema, glaucoma or cataracts. Early detection is the key to preventing blindness," said Nicholson.

The diabetes initiative is not just preventative though, with staff members training patients how to best manage and monitor their own health outcomes. The program has focused instruction on how to monitor blood sugar levels, administer insulin injections and distributes glucometers, test strips and lancets seen by health providers at the CPN Health Services.

Though a host of factors can contribute to the disease, there are signs that Nicholson says can be noted if someone is unsure if they may have diabetes, especially if they're at higher risk for the disease like Native Americans are.

"We know there are risk factors," she said. "Such as if your parents were diabetic, if mom had gestational diabetes while pregnant with you, if you weighed more than nine pounds at birth or even if are obese as an adult. Native Americans are also at a higher incidence of having it. These are just a few, but not all, of the reasons that it should be taken seriously and people focus on living a healthier lifestyle to delay or prevent its onset."

Nicholson encourages anyone who thinks they may be impacted by these or has a concern that they may be suffering from this chronic, but treatable disease to contact CPN Health Services at (405) 878-4693 to schedule a screening with their health provider. To learn more about the CPN Diabetes Initiative, visit <http://www.potawatomi.org/services/health/diabetes-initiative>.

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi are fighting to preserve a part of their heritage

By Mark Wedel

The below article was originally published on Oct. 1, 2015 on the Southwest Michigan's Second Wave website. It has been reprinted here with their express written permission.

Vic Bogosian has an 18,000-strong army--or, rather, air-force--of wasps, and he's looking for more draftees. They're fighting an enemy of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi, the emerald ash borer, an invasive species from China that has been wiping out an important part of Michigan's Native American culture, the ash tree.

"The bugs here yet?" the Pokagon's natural resources manager asks the front desk of the Pokagon administration building near Dowagiac.

No bugs. He'd been able to place batches of wasps about every-other week since August. But the next expected batch of 3,000 to 4,000 wasps hadn't arrived. Maybe the FedEx guy left the box on the truck, he speculates. Or, there may be no more bugs for the year. "They weren't really clear on when they were winding down production," Bogosian says.

The wasps, also from China, are tiny in size, ranging from fruit fly to mosquito, and stingless, but they have a powerful ability to hunt out borer larvae burrowing under ash bark. The wasps work as "parasitoids." The wasps lay their eggs on the emerald ash borer offspring in the late summer to fall. Over the winter, something out of the movie "Alien" happens, but on a much-smaller scale.

Only one facility, in Brighton, north of Ann Arbor, raises the wasps for the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. As the borer spread so has demand for the wasps.

First signs of a problem appeared in 2002, in southeast Michigan, as ash trees began dying. Ground zero was likely Detroit, where borers arrived in wood packing materials from China. The larvae of the green beetle tunnels in and feeds on the most-vital part of the ash, the area just under the bark. When an ash is infested, it has about a 95 per cent chance of dying.

A shockwave of emerald ash borers spread out into Canada and through the Midwest. Major infestations have now reached as far as Colorado, Louisiana, and Massachusetts. Some of the spread could have been from the beetles expanding their range, but much was likely from people ignoring quarantine rules by moving infected wood to uninfected areas.

In 2012, the Pokagon band got to work on the problem. "The black ash is very important to the Potawatomi," Bogosian says.

Heritage threatened

"I make all kinds of stuff out of black ash," John Pigeon, Pokagon citizen, and seventh-generation basket maker, says from his home in Moline. His list includes bows, toboggans, cups, bowls, game implements, rattles and many, many baskets.



A black ash basket made by Steve Pigeon, a Pokagon Potawatomi.

His is a heritage that goes back to a time before Europeans arrived in the woods.

What would it feel like, for him, if all the ash of North America were wiped-out? Pigeon puts it in context:

"I learned basket-making from my mom and dad, and they learned it from their moms and dads, and they learned it from their moms and dads. For thousands of years, my family has been making baskets, making all different types of things, from this tree that the people call black ash."

He teaches his children and his grandchildren, and anyone else both inside and outside of the tribe who'll listen. "We try to share our culture so everybody can see the beauty in this."

In every season, for most of his 58 years, Pigeon has gone into the woods. "I gained knowledge and respect of the tree, and I have a relationship with the Earth, especially with those black ash trees that I've been permitted to use through their good graces. I harvest those black ash trees. For me, if that ends, that would be a big part of my life.

"Sometimes, when my son and I have been out in the woods looking for a tree, there have been times when I've not felt as hopeful, and I've actually cried out in the woods to see all the skeletons of those trees that used to be so, so plentiful back in my mom and dad's time. To see them just be decimated, it's a powerful thing. Because I grew up with all of those trees, and for me, they're just like family," he says.

"To see them just go down, it's a sad thing. But I always have hope. Between God and man, we'll come up with a solution. When the Creator puts these things on us, we rise to the occasion."

Trying to achieve equilibrium in the Michigan woods

Bogosian squished on through the damp, bog-like ground in the Pokagon's woods near Rodgers Lake, to the last site of wasp placement.

Black ash thrive around wetlands. Or, they should be thriving. Ash loss in the area has been around 90 percent, he says. It varies with the species. White ash do better against the emerald ash borer, but green and black ash, "they just take it on the nose.... If we were to

walk 100 yards that way, if we were to count the ash, that number would bear out. Most of them had died."

In 2012, the Pokagon took on the problem with pesticide treatments. That works, to a point--each tree must be injected directly with the pesticide every two years, which is not feasible or cheap to do to all their ash.

Bogosian pointed out a short chunk, or "bolt," of ash hanging from a tree. The wasp-raisers at the USDA APHIS Brighton facility first infected the ash that it came from with emerald ash borer larvae. Wasps then laid eggs in the larvae. The bolt is then hung in Pokagon land where wasp larvae will feed on, and eventually burst from, the ash borer larvae.

On the other side of the tree hangs a pill bottle. It contains a paper-like material dotted with wasp-infected emerald ash borer eggs -- another, smaller species of wasp lays its eggs within the eggs. They'll be consumed as the wasp develops.

The two species of Asian wasp will fly out in the spring and infect the emerald ash borers that threaten the Pokagon's remaining ash. The USDA has been working with this process since 2003. They approved the use of the wasps in 2007.

It will be fall of 2016 when Bogosian hopes to see that new generations of wasps have parasitized the emerald ash borer larvae and eggs on their land. It's a process that's about as painfully slow as a presidential election.

The ultimate hope is that the wasps will "push it back to equilibrium." They won't kill all the emerald ash borers, but they will keep them in check enough that the ash can recover. It's been found that in China, nearly 90 per cent of the EAB larvae and eggs are parasitized by the wasps. Bogosian is not sure if it will get to that level. "It's going to take a while to build up."

Could the wasps turn on North American lifeforms and become yet another invasive species?

The USDA has done considerable research and testing on these bugs, he says. "Before a non-native animal gets released, they wanted to make sure there was a very low chance that it would blow up in their faces."

Tests with the wasp began in 2003. Jian J. Duan, research entomologist

and lead scientist with the USDA ARS Beneficial Insects Introduction Research Unit, worked on the project and has published papers on the subject. He says the wasps are "very host specific on EAB. It's possible that some of the native beetles (in the same genus as EAB) may be occasionally attacked, but the population impact on these non-target beetles would be minimal."

Duan says that signs are good that the wasps will control the borers. At the first test sites in Lansing, "we have begun to see the impact (on emerald ash borer population) in about seven years." An equilibrium can be achieved to a point where ash can come back, Duan confirms, but "it normally takes at least five to ten years for the wasps to establish large populations to have significant impact on EAB."

Something else to consider: In Michigan, the overall emerald ash borer population has dropped considerably because so many ash are dead, Bogosian says. "They've eaten themselves 90 percent out of house and home at this point. So the beetle population has tumbled since they first got here," he says.

"The best thing to do is to not screw the system up in the first place. But unfortunately, we came to the party after that had already happened," Bogosian says.

Trees and their stories

Pigeon used to go into the woods with his children to plant trees. He does it with his grandkids now.

"I have them take a little stick, poke a hole in the ground, they put the seed in there," he says. "Just so they know it's not all about taking, we have a responsibility to nurture those trees, those things out in the woods, so they could nurture us, so there's a payback. So the trees, the earth out there, can see that we're trying to help."

This spring, he and his grandkids were looking for morels in the Allegan State Forest, where his parents would take him. He remembered that his son, at around five years of age, planted seeds in the same area.

He told them, "Hey, you guys, look at this tree right here. It's your uncle, he planted that tree when he was close to your age. Look how big that tree is right now. Your uncle, he didn't make it grow, but he had a place in its placement, where it was going to grow."

"They were proud, looking at the tree. It was still viable," he says. But the trees around it were struggling. "It may have trouble just seeing its family around it being devastated."

Pigeon is not sure that he'll see the ash come back in his lifetime, but he's hopeful. And he's continuing to share his knowledge with his children and grandchildren. "So they'll have the stories behind why we do what we do, so that when those trees come back, and I know that they will, they'll have those stories... People can learn how to make baskets from a book, but they don't know the stories behind them, behind why we do what we do."

Chairman Barrett recognized by 2015 AARP Indian Elder Honors

Well known Native American elders from across Oklahoma gathered at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City on Oct. 6, with Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Chairman John Barrett amongst those recognized for their work in Indian Country.

According to the AARP, Chairman Barrett was honored for his more than 30 years of service in transforming CPN into the largest employer in Pottawatomie County, improving social services for the Citizen Potawatomi people and fostering a renewed emphasis on cultural activities and history. Amongst his accomplishments noted by AARP were the Tribal constitutional reform, which was honored by Harvard University's Honoring Nations Program in 2013 and the construction of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center in 2006.

"It's an honor to be recognized by the AARP's Indian Elder's program," said Barrett of his award. "To be in a room with so many familiar faces that have all done great things for Indian Country and its people in Oklahoma, it truly means a lot."

The seventh annual AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors recognized more than 50 Native American tribal elders from 30 Oklahoma tribes in 2015.

"The common thread among these honorees is the wisdom and impact



AARP Oklahoma Associate State Director Mashell Sourjohn, Regional Vice President Nancy Stockbridge, Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett and AARP Oklahoma State President Joe Ann Vermillion.

they have had on their tribes, family and community," said AARP Oklahoma State President Joe Ann Vermillion. "Tonight, in this place, as Oklahoma tribes and nations join together in a spirit of harmony and peace, we reflect and give thanks for the lives they have lived and the innumerable ways they have passed on their legacies to future generations."

Barrett has served as Tribal chairman since 1986 and is the eighth generation member of his family to serve in a leadership position of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Prior to becoming chairman he was vice-chairman and a member of the business committee. In the decades under his leadership, the Tribe has emerged as leading employer in Pottawatomie

County by a factor of five, and boasts two health clinics serving all Native Americans, spouses of CPN members and Tribal employees, a 25-person strong Tribal police force and innumerable social services benefitting the communities inside the original Tribal jurisdiction.

Capps among those recognized at Journal Record Woman of the Year awards

Vice-Chairman Linda Capps was again nominated and recognized at the *Journal Record's* 2015 Woman of the Year Awards on Oct. 1 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City.

Capps was nominated for the second consecutive year, though this year's award went to Marcia MacLeod, senior vice president of human resources for WPX Energy in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The vice-chairman was amongst those profiled *Journal Record's* "50 Making a Difference" publication for her decades of work as an educator, small business owner and tribal government official.

"Linda's broad experience, education and keen intellect make her a key element in the economic and social excellence that continues to benefit our tribal citizens nationwide as well as our neighbors in the communities we serve," wrote Tribal Chairman John Barrett in his nominating letter for Capps. "Even more important, her kindness, compassion and gentle nature have made her beloved by those with whom she works and those to whom she freely gives her time and service."

Though she didn't take home this year's award, Capps was thrilled to arrive at this year's banquet to find several of her family members in at-



Vice-Chairman Linda Capps

tendance, which had been secretly arranged. "To have my family there on a night like that was fantastic," Capps said.

Capps was an educator in Dover and Tecumseh public schools as well as Gordon Cooper Technology Center in Shawnee, Oklahoma. Since 1990 she has been the vice-chairman of the

Citizen Potawatomi Nation, having previously served in the Tribal government since 1987. She presently sits on the Foundation Board of Gordon Cooper Technology Center. She is a board member for First National Bank and Trust Co., CPN Community Development Corporation, and a former board member of the Federal Reserve Bank of Oklahoma City. In

2012 she was named the Tecumseh, Oklahoma Citizen of the Year and in 2010 was inducted into the Gordon Cooper Technology Center Hall of Fame.

Additionally Capps says she is extremely proud to be a former Small Business Administration Minority Advocate of the Year and cherishes the fact that she was chosen as a participant of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Citizens Academy in 2012.

All those accolades aside, Capps is always quick to describe a happy memory on a former pupil, many of whom may have grandchildren of their own today. In discussing the work which led to her nomination as one of Oklahoma's most influential women, Capps said her greatest professional accomplishment is serving as an administrator over some of her former students at Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

"You know that you and your colleagues did something right when you see former students in positions as directors and managers," said Capps. "What a blessing to have this unique opportunity in life."

District 8 Meeting - Alaska



Rozzan Kimpton, wisest member dancing with a child.



Dax with Sleeping Lady drum group.



Art contest winner Ginger Blackmon.



Dave Carney and Lonnie Dunkin of Ketchikan, Alaska.

District 4 Meeting - Kansas



Sandra Wagner, who lives in Pittsburg, Kansas, received the gifts for having traveled the farthest to attend the meeting. Sandra is a member of the Bourassa and Ogee families.



Four generations of the Pearl family, with grandmother Christy Ronsee, Carter Ronsee standing next to dad Adam Ronsee holding Ryder Ronsee and great-grandfather Jerry Pearl.



Youngest, 4-month old Ryder Ronsee, great-grandson of Jerry Pearl and latest addition to the Slavin family



Eric Anderson, PhD., Professor at Haskell Indian Nations University, who presented valuable information about the school. Member of the Nadeau family.



Eldest honoree, 91-year old Jim Coder, a Bourbonnais family member.

TRIBAL ELECTION NOTICE

District 9 and 12 are both on the ballot for the 2016 election. Those seeking legislative seats must live within Oklahoma. Legislative seats 9 and 12 are both located in Oklahoma, but have no specific geographic limits inside the state. Therefore those wishing to contest a specific seat must indicate which legislative position that they are running for. Only CPN members who are 18 or older as of Election Day who would like to be considered for these positions must have their declarations of candidacy in the Election Committee's hands no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13, 2016. These declarations of candidacy must be filed through the U.S. Postal Service. Filing forms can be requested by writing to Hownikan@potawatomi.org. All eligible CPN voters living in Oklahoma can vote for each individual candidate in legislative seats 9 and 12.

TRIBAL ELECTIONS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE ANNUAL FAMILY REUNION FESTIVAL ON JUNE 25, 2016, WITH ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORMS MAILED IN THE SPRING OF 2016. • ALL CPN MEMBERS NATIONWIDE WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE TRIBAL BUDGET ON ELECTION DAY.

CPN Legislative update: November 2015

On September 24, 2015 the CPN Tribal Legislature convened its meeting; all 16 members were in attendance.

The 2016 fiscal year Tribal budgets were approved with a 16-0 vote in favor.

In election news, legislators unanimously confirmed the appointment of the members of the Tribal election committee, with Gary Bourbonnais designated as chairman. Tribal elections will take place at the annual Family Reunion Festival on June 25, 2016, with absentee ballot request forms mailed in the spring of 2016.

District 9 and 12 are all on the ballot for the election. Those seeking legislative seats must live within Oklahoma. Legislative seats 9 and 12 are all located in Oklahoma, but have no specific geographic limits inside the state. Therefore those wishing to contest a specific seat must indicate which legislative position that they are running for. Only CPN members who are 18 or older as of Election Day will be CPN members who would like to be considered for these positions must have their declarations of candidacy in the Election Committee's hands no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13, 2016. These declarations of candidacy must be filed through the U.S.



2015 - 2016 CPN Legislature.

Postal Service. Filing forms can be requested by writing to Hownikan@potawatomi.org or eligible to vote. All eligible CPN voters living in Oklahoma can vote for each individual candidate in legislative seats 9 and 12.

Candidates for the legislative seats must be at least 18 years old by Election Day. Additionally, they must have resided in the district from which they are elected for at least six months on Election Day.

The legislature appointed Tribal Chairman John Barrett as delegate and representatives Eva Marie Carney and Robert Whistler as alternates to the National Congress of American Indians annual session, including authorization of a payment for NCAI membership dues.

The Citizen Potawatomi Development Corporation's proposed 2016 CDFI Grant Assistance Program application was also approved with unanimous consent, as was a resolution approving CPN's membership

dues to the National Indian Gaming Association.

Tribal Road's Director Art Muller and Environmental Department Assistant Director Shawn Howard were designated certifying officers for the environmental review process at CPN by the legislators.

Resolutions also passed approving grant applications for the 2016 Indian General Assistance Program and Clean Water Act, Section 106 Tribal Water Grant Program. The addition of routes to the Nation's existing road inventory data system was approved alongside updates to the Tribe's Long-Range Transportation Plan.



Tribal employment, training and education services were consolidated through Public Law 102-477 with the approval of all legislators.

Conditional relinquishment of Tribal citizenships were approved for Esther Denise Levier, Taletha Denine Levier, Tristan James Levier, Nicholas Casmir Michals and Robert Anthony Wamego.

269 new members of the Tribe were enrolled with all legislators voting in the affirmative.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation

BY THE NUMBERS

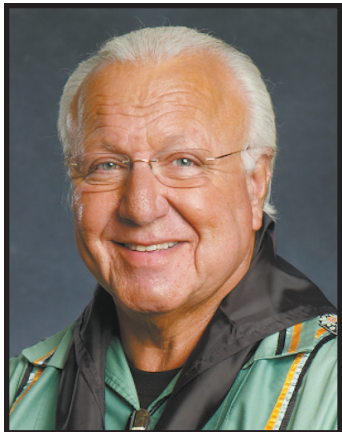


DISTRICT 8

Tribal population of 2506	Age
Washington: 1,008 (66 - Spokane)	100+: 0
Oregon: 658 (64 - Portland)	91-99: 6
Idaho: 232 (53 - Boise)	70-90: 150
Montana: 192 (23 - Missoula)	50-69: 661
Wyoming: 60 (11 - Cheyenne)	30-49: 728
North Dakota: 28 (7 - Williston)	13-29: 704
South Dakota: 42 (11 - Rapid City)	1-12: 257
Nebraska: 150 (24 - Bellevue)	
Alaska: 136 (56 - Anchorage)	

Scholarship recipients per state in District 8

Alaska - 2 • Idaho - 15 • North Dakota - 3 • Montana - 7
Nebraska - 10 • Oregon - 25 • South Dakota - 2 • Wyoming - 2



Tribal Chairman - John "Rocky" Barrett

Bozho, Nikan (Hello, my friend)

I just read through the last year's collection of my *Hownikan* columns and was alarmed by the subject matter in almost every one of them. For more than a year we have been the target of legal attacks by the staff of Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin. We are in court now. She has to know and approve of what is happening. Her Secretary of State, Chris Benge, told me personally that "anything Indian tribes get, costs the State of Oklahoma."

He and his prejudiced boss, Mary Fallin, ignore the massive amounts of outside investment capital, tourism revenue, federal funds from contracts and federal programs and new rural income created by tribal business.

Some of these legal attacks have been carried out by her chief legal counsel, former U.S. Attorney Steve Mullins, or other members of his legal staff who have been exerting pressure on agencies of state government to fabricate legal disputes with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Most recently they threatened our casino enterprises in an attempt to force us to give them sales tax money which they are not legally entitled to.

In fact, every one of these disputes is based on our legal behavior under federal law that she and the rest of

her Republican Tea Party radicals admit is the law of the land. Yet they continue their attacks because they disagree with the U.S. Congress, something they are not ashamed of boasting about.

One of Steve Mullin's staff lawyers admitted as much during a recent public inter-tribal meeting, telling those of us in attendance that the objective was not to win their case in court, but to financially punish any Oklahoma Indian tribe who refuses to sign a so-called "compact" that allows the state to illegally collect taxes on our lands.

The land we govern in what is now Oklahoma was purchased by the Citizen Potawatomi under a federal treaty almost 150 years ago for the modern-day equivalent of \$1.3 million. Our Tribal government and ownership predates the existence of the State of Oklahoma by 40 years. We bought the land as United States citizens, not disenfranchised Indians. Each of you had a great-grandfather or great-grand mother who was a part of that act of Tribal government – and was cheated out of most of that land.

Prior to that land purchase, we had been cheated out of the previous three land agreements we had with the U.S. government for lands in Indiana, Iowa and Kansas. We were either killed or forced to give up our homes, our land improvements and our businesses without compensation, and forcibly moved away to lesser quality, wild and unsettled lands – with only what we could carry. We were disallowed any recourse under the law or the United States Constitution.

Because the United States Supreme Court ruled that

American Indians were not citizens in the 1830s, no Indian could bring a lawsuit in the United States courts to claim their constitutional right to just and fair compensation for the seizure of our homes, businesses and farms (Article VII of the Bill of Rights "...nor shall private property be taken for public use; without just compensation.") We were the first Indian Nation to take U.S. citizenship as a body. We did it to protect our ownership of this land in what is now Oklahoma. Despite this, the U.S. Congress took most of it anyway and gave us 40-80 acres each. When the State of Oklahoma was authorized by Congress to be formed, it was with specific limitations spelled out in the "Enabling Act" and in the Oklahoma Constitution. ***The most specific limitation was not taxing Indian lands.***

Now Governor Mary Fallin thinks she is above all that law and history. Governor Fallin thinks she can commit a crime called ***extortion***, and get away with it because her political followers believe that they are above the law. Extortion is defined this way by Black's Law Dictionary:

Extortion, n.1. The offense committed by a public official who illegally obtains property under the color of office; esp. an official's collection of an unlawful fee. ---Also termed *common-law extortion*. **2.** The act or practice of obtaining something or compelling some action by illegal means, as by force or coercion. --- Also termed *statutory extortion*.

Governor Fallin's legal thugery has cost us - you and me - and the rest of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's citizens, more than **\$700,000 in legal fees just this year!** She says she will take away

our beverage license at our casinos if we don't pay sales taxes at our grocery stores – stores that by the letter of the law are not in Oklahoma! She had her legal weasels present her newly concocted "Sales Tax Compact" (created without consultation with the Oklahoma Legislature) and is actively telling Indian leadership across Oklahoma they can expect the same as the Citizen Potawatomi Nation unless they sign up on her terms – a direct violation of the 2013 HEARTH Act passed by Congress that prohibits state taxation of tribal commerce on Indian lands. She is also telling any business that wants to build on Indian land that they will be **prosecuted off of Indian land** for failure to pay taxes to the state **for sales on Indian lands**.

Please write her a letter. Please write your state representative and the members of Congress who represent you. This is happening because we are not white people. If we were white people who create 2,400 jobs and contributed millions of dollars in charitable giving, federal dollars and investment into their local communities, we would get awards, not lawsuits. If we were white people we would get keys to the city. White job creators get invited to the governor's mansion.

Most of all, white people get equal protection under the law in Oklahoma. **We do not!**

This is another attempt by the government to steal from Indians. Throughout our history we have been rounded up by the militias and forced to march with our heads down, leaving behind everything we worked for. This time it isn't a militia standing with guns to our backs de-

manding we sign away what is rightfully ours. Rather it is lawyers, and Governor Mary Fallin, who have wrongfully attacked us and threatened to destroy everything we have built. At a time in our history when we are finally beginning to restore some of what was lost, we cannot afford to lose this fight again.

Please write to her. Let this racially intolerant governor and her staff know this illegal behavior cannot stand. We are the leading employer, of both Indians and non-Indians, in Pottawatomie County. We give generously to virtually every cause in our area – education, safety, hunger, elder care, veterans, the poor, the homeless and the abused – Indian or not. We are doing more than our part to make this state a fair and humane place to live. She is not. Tell her what you think. Here is her address:

Governor Mary Fallin
Oklahoma State Capitol
2300 N. Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
73105

We have to defend ourselves or watch everything we have worked so hard to accomplish go up in smoke. Make her understand that the money and jobs she is trying to steal from us will not go to the state if she wins in court or forces her bogus "compact" on us. The jobs and money **will simply go away**.

Thank you for your help. We need your action.

It is my greatest privilege to serve as your Tribal Chairman.

Migwetch,

John Barrett - Keweoge
("He Leads Them Home")
Tribal Chairman

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION TRANSITIONAL SERVICES

IOWA TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

HISTORY

The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Vocational Rehabilitation Program has provided vocational services to American Indians with disabilities for twenty years and counting, with Transition Services at six years. Our mission is to develop specialized services to American Indian students with disabilities currently making the transition from high school to work or achieving a post-secondary education.

SERVICES WE CAN PROVIDE

We assist with testing fees (ACT, SAT), provide work clothing for new jobs, tuition assistance, assistive devices such as hearing aids, walkers, wheelchairs, eye glasses, along with physical and mental evaluations.

QUALIFICATIONS

You must be a member of a federally recognized tribe, a junior or senior in high school and must reside in one of the Iowa Tribe VR services area counties. You must also provide documentation from your doctor or physician noting your disability.

COUNTIES SERVED BY ITOVR

Kay • Noble • Pawnee • Payne • Pottawatomie • Lincoln • Logan



Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Vocational Rehabilitation

P.O. Box 728 • Perkins, OK 74059 • Phone: 405-547-2402 ext 168 • Toll Free: 1-888-336-4692 • Fax: 405-547-1090
Email Christa Tsotaddle, Transitional Counselor at ctsotaddle@iowanation.org • Find us on the web at www.bahkhoje.com



Vice-Chairman - Linda Capps

“You learn something new every day.”

How often do we hear this old cliché? Well, I learned something new last week about the Oklahoma Association of Student Councils, also known as the OASC. Years ago when I was a member of the student council in my home town high school, I did not realize that student council was such a widespread organization. In fact, that many years ago, student council may have been localized for each school. Never the less, the student council organizations of modern days are premier student leadership organizations.

They are highly organized and widespread throughout the U.S. I was pleasantly surprised when the Lori Sanford of Dale High School contacted FireLake Arena Director Tracy Peltier to inquire about the Nation hosting the OASC District 9 meeting. The district is comprised of many schools in Pottawatomie and the surrounding counties. Mrs. Sanford is a leader for OASC District 9.

Tracy Peltier and FireLake Bowling Center Director Chris Skillings partnered to host a very eventful program at CPN. The October 7 event began at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday morning and ran until noon with more than 350 students from 12 different schools attending. The students were divided evenly into two groups. After gathering for breakfast and an introductory business meeting, the groups split to attend a portion of the total program. One group stayed in the arena to listen to a presentation by Heather Anderson, a popular

disc-jockey out of the Dallas, Texas region. Heather is not a novice to the Shawnee area, having attended both high school and college in Pottawatomie County. Her advice to the young people struck a harmonious note as they listened intently to her motivational presentation.

The split side of the group made their way to the bowling center and arcade where Chris Skillings instructed them to enjoy bowling and the numerous arcade games. I witnessed those who were waiting in the bowling lines immensely enjoy the experience. I was pleasantly surprised to see the joyful dancing and constant moving to the music as they patiently waited their turn to bowl. The arcade was equally fun to watch as the students played each game with great enthusiasm.

Many of the students were able to stay through lunch and eat at several restaurants of CPN. The word “awesome” was heard over and over again as I walked through the bowling center and observed both groups. I was extremely proud of our enterprises, our employees and mostly the students who were having such a great time.

A huge thank you goes out to Tracy Peltier with his amazing crew who prepares the huge FireLake Arena to accommodate groups of 50 to 2,500 on a few days’ notice. In addition, my everlasting



Anna Mae Comadoll in front with (left to right) Dana Widmer, Karen McFadden, Donna Widmer, Wayne Widmer, Linda Flaspohler and Therese Widmer

appreciation goes to Chris Skillings who has ensured that the CPN enterprise at the bowling center is constantly changing and ever exciting for visitors of all ages.

It was a great promotional and outreach effort for CPN and our enterprises too, with so many students and educators from surrounding communities able to witness firsthand what great amenities and services the Nation offers.

I probably enjoyed this event as much as any of the attendees. I always enjoy the students and I like to accommodate the schools whenever possible. I had a special attraction at this event too. His name is Scout Capps and he is a student council member at Dale High School. I truly enjoyed seeing my grandson appreciate his Tribal nation and all that we strive to do

for Tribal members and the community.

On another note, as some of you may have read in September’s *Hownikan*, District 1 Legislator Roy Slavin told of his visit with Anna Mae Commodol, a Citizen Potawatomi who recently turned 100 years old. I wasn’t able to make the trip to Ohio to see her, but I wanted to share a photo of the family from the party that many members of this Bertrand Family attended. Congratulations to Anna Mae and best wishes for many more!

Migwetch,
Linda Capps
Vice Chairman
405-275-3121 office
405-650-1238 cell
lcapps@potawatomi.org



Rachel Dockery with Lori Sanford and Caitlin Payne at the student council event.



JOIN US!

For the District 3 area meeting
with Representative Bob Whistler

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 14 • 10AM - 3PM

HILTON GARDEN INN AUSTIN NORTH
512-339-3626 • 12400 N. I-35, BLDG C
AUSTIN, TX 78753

RSVP no later than November 6, 2015 with Bob Whistler at
rwhistler@potawatomi.org or 817-282-0868.

Fall CPN Family Feast for Districts 1 and 2

NOVEMBER 14TH • 10AM TO 2PM

Church Hall of the Little Falls Presbyterian Church
6025 Little Falls Road, Arlington, VA 22207
(703) 538-5230 • www.littlefallschurch.org

Free parking, handicap accessible. Please bring a dish to share (family style). We will provide entrées and drinks. Wear moccasins if you have them (celebrating Rock Your Mocs week).

RSVP by November 7 to ecarney@potawatomi.org or rsalvin@potawatomi.org
or leave a message with your contact details and names of attendees and how many are children with their ages on the District 1 CPN voicemail number at 1 (888) 741-5767 or District 2 at 1 (866) 961-6988.

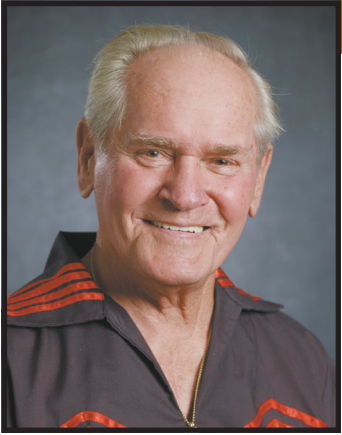


GATHERING OF POTAWATOMI NATIONS

HOSTED BY CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION IN SHAWNEE, OK - JULY 2016

Get the *Hownikan* via email!

If you would like your newspaper via email, please email your name and address to hownikan@potawatomi.org and let us know.



Bozho,

I have just returned home from visiting Shawnee, Okla-

District 1 - Roy Slavin

homa where we attended the CPN Vietnam Veterans banquet.

As a veteran, Army 1950–1953, I can't tell you how much it means to have our service recognized and remembered by our Nation. The other great thing about these banquets is getting to mingle with the other veterans and hear their stories. There are so many stories so many adventures.

Another great thing about visiting Shawnee besides getting to see our kids, grandkids and "great"-grandkids, is visiting the CPN Eagle Aviary and seeing these great birds up close while having Bree and Jennifer, the two ladies who run the aviary tell us about each bird and their habits.

The CPN is indeed fortunate to have these two dedicated ladies on staff to care for the eagles. If you have never vis-

ited the aviary I urge you to do so. I promise you won't be disappointed. During Festival there are regular tours of the aviary – another good reason for coming to Festival.

I will end this short article as always with a plea for your contact information. Due to privacy issues the Nation cannot provide me with that information. I can be reached at 6730 Tower Drive, Kansas City, MO 64151 – Rslavin@

potawtomi.org or toll free 1-888-741-5767.

The District 1 and 2 Family Feast invite can be viewed on page 18.

Igwien (Heartfelt Thanks)

Roy Slavin (Netagtege)



Bozho nikanek/Hello friends,

This month's column is about Citizen Potawatomi visiting opportunities in and around Washington, D.C.

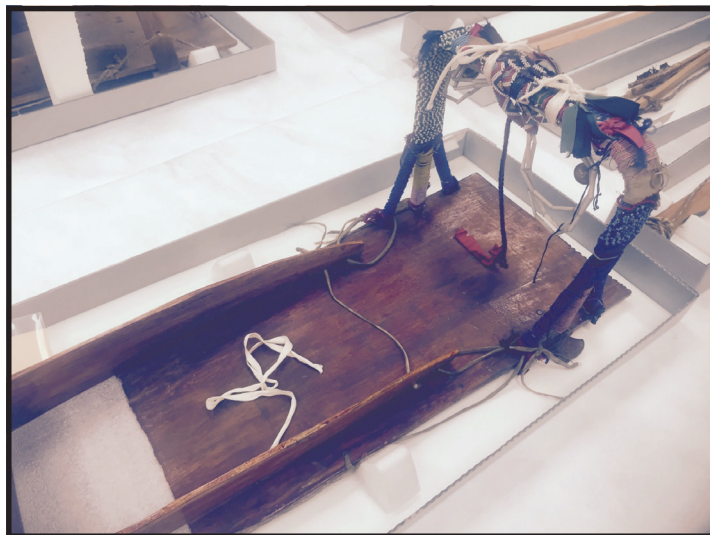
Smithsonian Archives Tour: Personnel at the Archives of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) in Suitland, Maryland hosted 12 of us (the maximum allowable per tour) this past Friday of the interesting building, astounding collection (850,000 objects) and in particular a selection of Potawatomi objects for our close up viewing and photographing. We began with lunch at a small café on the grounds and enjoyed each other's company – in attendance were Bill, Kelly, Molly and Amy Anderson (Anderson family) from Georgia, Heidi and Madeline Stone from Virginia (Melott family), Davis Hobdy from Maryland (Kahdot family), and Jeff and Steven Klein and Candace Walter (Tescier family) with Robert Kaspro-wicz, all from Pennsylvania. A few object photos are included here – and a group photo. You can find many more photos, contributed by

District 2 - Eva Marie Carney

Davis Hobdy, Steve Klein, and me, at this Facebook link (you do not have to have a Facebook account to view the photos): <http://tinyurl.com/o6ukmfk>.

D1-D2 Fall Feast: Next up is the Districts 1 and 2 Fall Feast, taking place in Arlington, Virginia on Sat., November 14, 2015. You can view the invite on page 18. Postcards have been mailed out and all details are on my website, under Calendar: <http://www.evamariecarney.com/calendar.php>. One of the Smithsonian interns who assisted us during the archives visit is a beading enthusiast and will be assisting Bob Richey (Laframboise family) with beadwork and leather crafting instruction during the event. Roy Slavin and I anticipate a pretty big crowd and look forward to the potluck food that everyone will bring (I have a *Mnoomin* (wild rice) dish planned, and will have roast turkey for the group).

Native Art Market at the NMAI: A month later is the always-terrific Native Art Market at the NMAI. The market offers a unique shopping opportunity for visitors to purchase traditional and contemporary works—including silver and semiprecious jewelry, ceramics, fine apparel, handwoven baskets, traditional beadwork, dolls, paintings, prints, and sculpture—by some of the finest Native American artists. More importantly, it provides the opportunity to get to know the artists.



Infant cradleboard archival piece.

Through the market I now have friendships with several lovely women including Citizen Potawatomi potter and bronze artist Pahponee, and Haudenosaunee multi-media artist Natasha Smoke Santiago, and also had the opportunity to meet a Citizen Potawatomi cousin, photographer Peggy Fontenot, and the Pokagon black ash basket artist Jennie Brown. The art market is Sat.-Sun., December 5-6, 2015, with free admission. There is a member preview on Fri., December 4, 2015 that I plan to attend. Please see <http://nmai.si.edu/artmarket/> for more details. I would be pleased to meet up with you there if you have plans to attend as well. Please drop me a note and we can connect.

Nation to Nation exhibit at the NMAI: The Nation to Nation exhibit at the NMAI on the Washington D.C. mall continues through 2018. The National Archives is reluctant to lend out its documents, due to their importance and age, but from March 2016 through August 2016 the 1836 Treaty our people signed with the government will be on loan from the archive and displayed at the museum. And from August 2017 to January 2018 our 1809 treaty will be on display. This is a singular opportunity to see these historic documents. I will be planning a group visit during each display period, so please be on the lookout for details on those outings. Transcripts of the treaties can be found at

<http://americanindian.si.edu/nationtonation/>.

Travel to Washington, D.C.: With all this potential travel to the Washington area I canvassed Potawatomi for travel tips and here is the result: Some have had good success with online sites Airbnb, <https://www.airbnb>.

and less than a 5-mile taxi ride from Washington D.C., and the Ronald Reagan Airport. The hotel website can be found via <http://tinyurl.com/chot9sv>. Another option is the Key Bridge Marriott, which is 4-iles from Ronald Reagan Airport and walking distance to Georgetown. That hotel website can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/2fyag46>. There are many more options, of course, but these may get you started. If you have a favorite place to stay in the area I'd appreciate hearing about it from you. I look forward to seeing you and your families in my adopted home town soon!

Reminder regarding Winter Stories booklet: If you want a copy of the booklet of Winter Stories I'm putting together please contact me with your current mailing details.



Man's leather shirt.



Our group in front of contemporary paintings.

com/ or VRBO, <http://www.vrbo.com/>. Just input your location and dates of stay and you'll have many options of apartments, houses, etc. being offered through these online portals. More traditional hotels folks have enjoyed include the Hilton Garden Inn Arlington/ Courthouse Plaza, which is a 4-minute walk from the Courthouse Metro Station,

Migwetch/thank you for the honor of representing you.

Legislator Eva Marie Carney *Ojindiskwe* (Bluebirdwoman) ecarney@potawatomi.org CPN Legislative District #2 701 8th Street NW, #340 Washington, D.C. 20001 Toll Free 1-866-961-6988 evamariecarney.com



Bozho nikanek, (Hello friends)

On Sat., November 14 the second District 3 area meeting of 2015 will be held for those of you in south Texas. The meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn Austin North. The address is: 12400 N. I-35, Building C, Austin, TX 78753. Phone 512.339.3626. We do need an RSVP, so either send me an email or call by November 6. My email addresses are at the end of this column. You can view the invite on page 18.

Over the next two months, I would like to cover a subject that we spoke to many about at the American Indian Heritage Day of Texas. It deals with a subject that is prevalent in adults, but with the creation of Facebook and Twitter is a serious issue with our teenage youth.

District 3 - Bob Whistler

It is called the cycle of violence and may be physically or sexually oriented. This information came from the National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence in Austin, Texas. The circle wheel used to depict this information was developed by the Domestic Abuse Intervention Project in Duluth, Minnesota.

Cycle of Violence

The cycle of violence consists of a wheel of power and control. It will cycle through three phases consisting of tension building, abusive incidents, and then the honeymoon where the victim feels trapped and believes they have no options.

The elements of the cycle are as shown in the table that follows.

This information is being given not only for those who may be a victim, but to alert other family members to be aware of the signs of this type of violence. Many times the victim has become so over powered they are unable to even think about how to escape this situation. A family member needs to

Physical	Sexual
Coercion and threats: Making threats to hurt someone. Threaten suicide or to leave them. Make them drop any charges on reports to the authorities of physical battery or mental stress.	Intimidation: Destroying things, throwing things around, or abusing things important to that person. Threaten with a weapon.
Male privilege: Treating them like a servant. They make all the decisions and you are not allowed to do anything with out their direct approval. Note, there are cases where it is Female privilege. It can work either way.	Emotional abuse: Critical of everything they do, say, or their personal appearance. Always "putting down", calling them names or playing mind games. Make them feel or think they are crazy or guilty. Humiliation, or ostracize.
Economic abuse: Removing all sources of money. Not allowing them access to family funds, to have a job, or taking their money and only giving them an allowance if any funds at all.	Isolation: Limiting or eliminating who they see, where they can go, and what they can read and do. Use of jealousy to rationalize why this is done. Keeping them away from any kind of influence other than the person who is violent.
Use of child: Make them feel guilty about their children. Limit visitation rights. Threaten to take visitation or custody of a child or their children away.	Blaming, denying or minimizing the violence: Saying the one being abused is responsible or caused the action. The responsible one denies it, saying it didn't happen or they make fun of it and will not accept the fact it is serious.

step in and take the initiative. One of the greatest problems is that those causing the violence will be very apologetic, and promise to change in the honeymoon period. That will never happen unless they get special counseling. The victim must get out of that environment.

We have a department to help them in doing this. It is the CPN Family Violence Program * House of Hope. Open M-F 8:00AM-5:00PM. <http://www.potawatomi.org/services/community/domes->

tic-violence-program 405-878-4673. Leaving a violent situation can be very dangerous, but our staff is there to assist you, just one call away. It is best for you to call this office for advice on how, and when the right move may be made for the best chance of successfully getting out of this kind of situation.

I know there was an article on this in the Hownikan October paper, but felt it needed to be reinforced again. Next month, I will be touching on the teen wheel of control and power.

Bama pi, (later)

Bob Whistler
District 3 Representative
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
112 Bedford Road, Suite 116
Bedford, TX 76022

817-282-0868 - Office
817-545-1507 - Home
817-229-6271 - Cell

rwhistler@potawatomi.org
CPN3Legislator@Yahoo.com



A brief recap of important points at D4 Rossville meeting:

Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas:

- Eligibility - Enrollment in a federally recognized Native American tribe

District 4 - Jon Boursaw

- Departments - Education/Business/American Indian Studies/Environment

- Accredited by the Commission of the North Central Association for Higher Learning

- Total Fees including Room and Board on campus: \$715.00 per semester

- There are twelve CPN members enrolled this semester.

Potawatomi Leadership Program (PLP):

- Eligibility - 18-20 years old by June 17, 2016 and have

not finished more than one year of college and have at least a 3.0 GPA.

- Length - Six Weeks

- Room and Board provided

- PLPs receive a weekly stipend as well as accumulated wages upon completion

- The 2016 PLPs will not only have the unique experience of being in Shawnee for the CPN Family Reunion Festival in June, but also the Gathering of Potawatomi Nations on July 24-26.

I have a limited number of printed materials on both of these subjects and if you would like a copy stop by the office, give me a call or send me an email.

CPN District 4 Open House: I'm hosting an open house for all Tribal members at the Topeka CPN District Office on November 11, 2015 from 9-11 a.m.

The office is located in the Seabrook Shopping Center at 21st and Gage, just around the corner from the Apple Market. A large Tribal seal is in the front window.

As always, it is my pleasure

to serve as your Legislative Representative.

Migwetch,
Jon Boursaw, Wetase Mkoh
CPN District 4 Legislative Representative
(O) 785-861-7272
(C) 785-608-1982
2007 SW Gage Blvd
Topeka, KS 66604
jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org
Office Hours:
Tuesday 9-11 a.m.
Thursday 3-5 p.m.
Other times - Please call

Hownikan

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma

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Questions: Toll-free 800-880-9880

Address changes should be sent to: Citizen Potawatomi Tribal Rolls, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801.



District 5 - Gene Lambert

took “The Rock” and conducted a sit in lasting from 1969 to 1971. Since then, and every year during the Thanksgiving holiday period, a Native American Sunrise Service occurs there at sunrise (obviously).

You may or may not know; when the federal government abandons properties, it is the Native American privilege to inhabit or have the right to such properties. That didn’t happen with Alcatraz though!

Our Indigenous Peoples’ Thanksgiving Sunrise Gathering will take place around a bonfire on the Alcatraz parade grounds. It is sponsored by the International Indian Treaty Counsel. The event is an opportunity to give “thanks for lives, our peoples and way of life and the gifts we receive from our honored Mother Earth.”

The gathering also honors tribal elders with special speakers, traditional and fancy dancing during the ceremonies. The gathering commemorates

the 1969-1971 occupation of Alcatraz Island and is attended by representatives of many different Indian tribes.

We have had more military representation per capita than any other culture. The t-shirt that says “Our Homeland Security” with a photo of Apache warrior Geronimo and his fighters from the 1800s has a history behind it. Around 1870, men from the Hopi Nation were incarcerated there. The island was originally developed with a lighthouse for military use, then as a military prison in 1868 and then a federal prison from 1933 until 1963. Beginning in November 1969, the island was occupied for more than 19 months by multiple Native American communities from San Francisco who were part of a Native defiance movement across the country who conducted public protests through the 1970s.

I remember the news and the coverage at the time about the audacity of the Native communities that thought they had

a right to be there. As I understand, John Freemont, the military governor of California, bought the island for \$5,000 on behalf of the U.S. As you might expect, they nullified the agreement as a result of the “Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. Stories say only two men escaped and all other attempts resulted in drowning and being eaten by sharks. There have been several movies about Alcatraz since then. I have seen them all. I find it fascinating and frightening. They feature Burt Lancaster in “The Bird Man of Alcatraz”, Clint Eastwood, “Escape from Alcatraz, Sean Connery in “The Rock”, John Howard, “Experiment Alcatraz, and Kevin Bacon, “Murder in the First.”

In case you are wondering why I am writing about this all of a sudden, I did not realize it is still going on every year. You could be a part of the ongoing celebration of the special sunrise service held in memory each year at the island. You may live in California, Arizona, Colorado, New

Mexico and it would not be a long trip. I am giving it some thought myself.

The stories about the 1960s are all true. I lived it. There is a saying; “If you remember the 60s, you simply were not there.”

Maybe I really wasn’t?

Yes there were the flower children, hippies, and let’s not forget the “aggressive” Native Americans and Alcatraz along with the largest cultural outcry for equality in decades. If any of you out there were a part of this I would love to hear from you and how it affected your life. Let’s give thanks for all we have been through successfully as a people and know that the Creator is in Charge.

He will have the last say!

Thinking of you all on this day giving thanks for the honor of serving you.

Eunice I. Lambert,
www.CPN05.com



District 7 - Mark Johnson

On July 31, a lightning strike on a single tree in the Sierra National Forest in the Kings River drainage near Rough Creek started what over the next 50 days, grew into the 151,000 plus acre Rough Fire. It burned the sacred grounds of the local Mono Indians in the fire’s race towards the west and south. In my day job as a chief with the state’s Wildland Fire Agency, I had the opportunity to work cooperatively with the USFS to finally bring the fire to a stop as it started to threatened communities in eastern Fresno County. Over the years, it has been a privilege to work with some top wildland firefighters in the state, many of whom are Native Americans. I would encourage any of our young people

to consider serving your community in this profession.

On Sunday October 11, the governor of California signed into law the California Racial Mascots Act.

The state legislature found and declared all of the following: “The use of racially derogatory or discriminatory school or athletic team names, mascots, or nicknames in California public schools is antithetical to the California school mission of providing an equal education to all. Certain athletic team names, mascots, and nicknames that have been used and remain in use by other teams, including school teams, in other parts of the nation are discriminatory in singling out the Native

American community for the derision to which mascots or nicknames are often subjected. Many individuals and organizations interested and experienced in human relations, including the United States Commission on Civil Rights, have concluded that the use of Native American images and names in school sports is a barrier to equality and understanding, and that all residents of the United States would benefit from the discontinuance of their use. No individual or school has a cognizable interest in retaining a racially derogatory or discriminatory school or athletic team name, mascot, or nickname.”

Beginning January 1, 2017, all public schools in California are prohibited from using the

term ‘Redskins’ for school or athletic team names, mascots or nicknames.

Once again I would like to say what an honor and privilege it is to serve you as your District 7 representative. As always give me a call and I will be happy to work with you on any questions you may have, or provide you with additional information you may need to access tribal benefits that you are entitled to.

Migwetch / Thank You,
Mark Johnson / *Wisk Mtek*
(Strong as a Tree)

1565 Shaw Ave., Suite 202
Clovis, CA. 93611
(559) 351-0078 cell
Mark.Johnson@
Potawatomi.org



District 8 - Dave Carney

for the mistake in not running Dave’s photos with his column about the Alaska meeting last month.)

According to the graphic on page 17 of this edition of the paper, District 8 has just more than 2,500 Potawatomi, from Alaska to Nebraska, 136 of which are in Alaska itself. It was good to see so many of those and others at our meeting in Anchorage.

As always it is an honor to serve you, and if I can ever be of service or assistance, please contact me.

Bama Pi,
Dave Carney
dcarney@potawatomi.org
www.dave-carney.com
360.259.4027

A short column this month, beginning with a request that all Potawatomi in District 8 RSVP for our annual Fall Feast on November 14, 2015 by no later than November 6, 2015 to me.

On page 16 are photos from our August meeting in Anchorage, Alaska which were supposed to run in the last edition of the Hownikan. *(Note from the deputy-editor: We apologize*

Citizen Potawatomi Fall Feast

Saturday, November 14, 2015 - 6pm Seattle, WA

All District 8 CPN members are welcome to an evening of family, food and fun!

The Nation will provide a roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings
Please bring a dessert to share if you’d like

Beverages supplied (*this is a no alcohol event*)

We will have presentations, a tribal member art competition and prizes for our youngest and wisest

Come be a part of your tribe and your district!

Duwamish Longhouse and Cultural Center
4705 W Marginal Way SW, Seattle, WA 98106

RSVP by November 6th with legislator Dave Carney at dcarney@potawatomi.org or (360) 259-4027



District 9 - Paul Wesselhöft

Bozho Nikan,

O Great Spirit

As a Christian, an ordained Southern Baptist minister and a retired U.S. Army

Chaplain, I have been called upon frequently to give public prayers. Never have I prayed another's published prayer. My prayers come spontaneously from the heart.

Another reason why I don't deliver published prayers is because it is difficult to find one that moves my heart and is capable of touching the soul of the listener, until now.

As a Potawatomi Native American, I would to share

this anonymous Indian prayer with you. I hope it means as much to you as it does to me.

O Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds, and whose breath gives life to all of the world, hear me.

I am small and weak.

I need your strength and wisdom.

Let me walk in beauty and make my eyes ever behold

the red and purple sunset.

Make my hands respect the things you have made.

Make my ears sharp to hear your voice.

Make me wise so that I may understand the things you have taught your people.

Let me learn the lessons you have hidden in every leaf and rock.

I seek strength, not to be

greater than another, but to fight my greatest enemy myself.

Make me always ready to come to you with clean hands and a straight eyes.

So when life fades, as the fading sunset, my spirit may come to you without shame.

Megwetch,

Naganit (Leader)



District 10 - David Barrett

Bozho,

Hoping this month will find happiness for all of you. I was going to write about all the things we should be thankful for, but I came across something that intrigued me and I wanted to share it with you.



The Dewegen Kwek ladies drum group performed at the Vietnam Veterans Banquet.

I ran across some inspirational sayings and words of wisdom from a Native American perspective, reflecting Native American beliefs, philosophy and spirituality.

Lakota Instructions for Living

Friend do it this way—that is, whatever you do in life, do the very best you can with both your heart and mind.

And if you do it that way, the Power of the Universe will come to your assistance, if your heart and mind are in Unity.

When one sits in the Hoop of The People, one must be responsible because All of Creation is related. And the hurt of one is the hurt of all. And the honor of one is the honor of all. And whatever we do effects everyone in the universe.

If you do it that way—that is, if you truly join your heart and mind as One —whatever you ask for, that's the Way It's Going To Be.

(passed down from White Buffalo Calf Woman)

If the white man wants to live in peace with the Indian, he can live in peace...

Treat all men alike. Give them all the same law. Give them all an even chance to live and grow. All men were made by the same Great Spirit Chief.

They are all brothers. The Earth is the mother of all people, and all people should have equal rights upon it...

Let me be a free man, free to travel, free to stop, free to work, free to trade where I choose my own teachers, free to follow the religion of my fathers, free to think and act for myself, and I will obey every law, or submit to the penalty.

(Heinmot Tooyalaket ((Chief Joseph)), Nez Perce Leader)

Humankind has not woven the web of life.

We are but one thread within it.

Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves.

All things are bound together.

All things connect.

(Chief Seattle, 1854)

Before our white brothers arrived to make us civilized men,

We didn't have any kind of prison. Because of this , we had no delinquents.

Without a prison, there can be no delinquents.

We had no locks nor keys and therefore among us there were no thieves.

When someone was so poor that he couldn't afford a horse, a tent or a blanket,

He would, in that case, receive it all as a gift.

We were too uncivilized to give great importance to private property.

We didn't know any kind of money and consequently, the value of a human being was not determined by his wealth.

We had no written laws laid down, no lawyers, no politicians, therefore we were not able to cheat and swindle one another.

We were really in bad shape before the white men arrived and I don't know how to explain how we were able to manage without these fundamental things that (so they tell us) are so necessary for a civilized society.

(John "Fire" Lame Deer Sioux Lakota- 1903-1976)

So live your life that the fear of death can never enter you heart.

Trouble no one about their religion; respect others in their view, and demand that they respect yours.

Love your life, perfect your life, beautify all things in your life.

Seek to make your life long



The CPN Veterans Organization Color Guard.

and its purpose in the service of your people.

Prepare a noble death song for the day when you go over the great divide.

Always give a word or a sign of salute when meeting or passing a friend, even a stranger , when in a lonely place.

Show respect to all people and grovel to none.

When you arise in the morning give thanks for the food and for the joy of living.

If you see no reason for giving thanks, the fault lies only in yourself.

Abuse no one and no thing, for abuse turns the wise ones to fools and robs the spirit of its vision.

When it comes your time to die, be not like those hearts are filled with the fear of death, so that when their time comes they weep and pray for

a little more time to live their lives over again in a different way.

Sing your death song and die like a hero going home.

(Chief Tecumseh "Crouching Tiger" Shawnee 1768-1813)

What is Life?

It is the flash of a firefly in the night.

It is the breath of a buffalo in the wintertime.

It is the little shadow which runs across the grass and loses itself in the sunset.

(Crowfoot, Blackfoot warrior and orator 1830-1890)

We had 146 people attending our banquet honoring the Vietnam Era veterans this last September and what a privilege it was to be in attendance with those veterans.

Continued on page 23...



Chairman Barrett leads the Tribal vets in a smudging ceremony at the Vietnam Veterans banquet.



District 11 - Lisa Kraft

Generational politics

As I near 50, I find that my political views still differ from those of my mother and father who are in their 70s. We may share ideas of what the American government ought to do but, fundamentally, still disagree about how much and at what cost. The important thing is, we all vote.

My parents' immediate concerns are different from mine; they are retired and I am working and raising a 12-year-old. However, their needs and those of my son keep me constantly planning should I have to take care of all of our needs at the same time. Being a member of the "sandwich" generation is similar to being a tribal leader who thinks about the needs of multiple generations.

As a legislator, I am concerned that our voting trends continue to be low. Despite the high number of Millennials and the number of students that receive scholarships for college, many do not engage with the Tribe by participating in such activ-

ities as reading the *Hownikan*, attending Festival or voting in Tribal elections. If they do not exercise their voting rights, we are going to continue to plan for them, rather than with them. As a parent, I ask you to talk with your college-age children and ask them to give back to our Tribal community by voting regularly.

The infographic published in October's issue of the *Hownikan* demonstrates the generational categories of our membership. There are more tribal member Baby Boomers (7,248) than there are of my generation, Generation X (5,730). There are also twice as many Millennials than there are of my genera-

tion (12,596). Four thousand members belong to the Generation Z group that my son falls in. They are too young to vote. The smallest segment of our Tribal population is age 70 and older with fewer than 2,500 members. Tribal members who are 70 and older, like my parents, tend to vote more often and engage in national and Tribal politics - as do the Baby Boomers. My generation and those who are younger tend to be less politically active in their voting habits.

We hold annual elections and pass a budget every year for the spending of interest on our Tribal trust fund. Whether in person or by mail, please vote and encourage

your family members and children to exercise their birthright as well. Our Tribe grows stronger when we recognize the importance of all generations and, together, plan for the needs of all. Please get out and vote so that we can carry on generational politics.

As always, I am thinking Potawatomi.

Lisa Kraft (*Zibikwe*)
Oklahoma Tribal Legislator
(District 11 - Statewide)
Lisa@CopperBearConsulting.com



District 13 - Bobbi Bowden

Bozho!

In my last article I wrote how the administration of the Health Aid Program had made an incredibly hard decision to make changes to the vision program.

After hearing from many Tribal members and realizing how much this benefits them, the decision has been made to return the vision portion of Health Aid back to the original benefit. I am very thankful that the administration listened to the needs

of our people and were able to see that is a place where benefits should not be cut.

In case you are not aware, the CPN Health Aid Program helps CPN Tribal members with the purchase of glasses, hearing aids, dentures and other medical devices.

All Tribal members born on or before December 31, 1976 are eligible for the Health Aid Program. Program monies are used for the purchase of prosthetic devices, glasses, hearing aids, dentures, partials, crowns, wheelchairs, mobile chairs, CPAP machines, prescription sunglasses, contacts and mobile chair lifts and ramps for vehicles. Please remember the Health Aid Program pays 75 percent up to \$750. There is a limit of \$750 per year. You can reach the Health Aid Program at 405-273-5236.

The form and additional information is available on our web site. www.potawatomi.org

Another program I would like to make sure you are aware of is Citizen Potawatomi Nation Title VI. This program began in the early 1980s to serve the needs of elderly Native Americans.

All Native Americans 55 and older who live in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation jurisdiction are encouraged to participate. The program provides a meal at noon Monday through Friday, bingo exercise equipment and activities are available every day at FireLake Wellness Center.

Each day, the program offers dominoes, cable TV, shuffleboard, computer access, a Nintendo Wii, and a quiet room for sewing, read-

ing, movies or just relaxing. Once a month the Community Health Representatives, or CHRs, visits elders, providing health screening which consists of blood pressure and blood sugar-level testing as well as nutrition information. A women's sewing group and Potawatomi language classes are held weekly. They have monthly nutrition and other senior focused speakers who provide helpful information to the elders. They also take several day trips throughout the year to museums and festivals throughout the state.

Home deliveries are taken to homebound elders to ensure them a nutritious meal each day. Those needing services at home can also contact the CHRs, whose office is in the Title IV location at FireLake Wellness Center.

For more information on this program please contact the Title VI Department at 405-214-5111.

These services and activities are offered in Shawnee Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and in McLoud at 3015 S. McLoud Road on Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon.

These are just a couple of examples of why I am honored to serve our great Nation!

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me anytime and I will do my best to answer or at least point you in the right directions for information.

Bobbi Bowden/Peshknokwe
BBowden@potawatomi.org

Barrett continued...

We also had some WWII, Korean, Desert Storm and other veterans including one active duty Air Force member. In closing I'm very thankful for all who have gone before us and those now who are protecting our freedoms here and abroad. We still have many freedoms, so let us not take them for granted. Within our own society, people are trying to take more and more of those freedoms away from us for which we have paid for with blood.

Wisdom and knowledge is great when used for the betterment of mankind. Happy Thanksgiving.

Migwetch
David Barrett
Mnedobe
(Sits with the Spirit)



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Bobbie June La Claire



Bobbie June La Claire, 86, of Shawnee passed away on Sunday, June 14, 2015. Bobbie was born February 13, 1929 at home in Asher, Oklahoma to Henry and Berta (Ayres) La Claire.

The La Claire's were a musical family. They sang and played the violin, accordion, guitar and piano. When Bobbie, her sister Billie and her brother Jimmy were young, they sang, "Oh Susana" on the local radio station.

Bobbie was a graduate of Shawnee High School, Shawnee, Oklahoma, where she grew up. Bobbie was married to Joe Pettus for 25 years. He preceded her in death. Bobbie was a homemaker and raised two children and had a beautiful flower garden that the neighbors admired. She was also a good cook.

Before she was married, Bobbie was a secretary to Hugh Brown, an architect in Shawnee. After she raised her children, she went to work at OBU and was befriended by many of the students there. She enjoyed people and always had a sweet smile on her face.

Survivors are her daughter: Janet Pettus of Shawnee; son: Tim Pettus of Shawnee; granddaughter: Naomi Champagne of Phoenix, Arizona; great-grandson: Tyler Key of Phoenix, Arizona; several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held at Walker Funeral Service Chapel in Shawnee on Friday, June 19, 2015. She was laid to rest at Fairview Cemetery in Shawnee.

Colene C. Langan



On August 1, 2015 at the age of 92, Colene C. Langan of Bellingham,

Washington went home to meet the Lord. On this day the world lost a remarkable woman.

Cora "Colene" Spencer was born April 27, 1923 in Choctaw, Oklahoma and was the seventh of 13 children. From the age of 17, caring for children became her life's work. "Nana" as she was also known, spent her life devoted to caring for generations of children and successfully operated an in home daycare for more than 40 years.

Colene, also known as "Grannie", was a strong, faithful woman and an amazing pie baker. Her legacy is one of love and richness in spirit. At 92 years old she battled cancer for 10 months and passed peacefully in her sleep.

She is survived by three younger siblings, her son, two daughters, six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at Portal Way Church of Christ in Washington on Thursday, August 6, 2015.

J. David Lawson



March 8, 1943 - July 19, 2015

J. David Lawson was born March 8, 1943 in Oklahoma City to Ernest and Frances (Meinert) Lawson.

In 1965 he graduated from the University of Tulsa with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering and was a member of Kappa Alpha Order. In 1970 David received a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin. After graduating from Austin, David worked for Amoco Production Company supervising a group of engineers responsible for natural gas and

oil field production operations. In 1979 he started Lawson Engineering, an engineering consulting company based in the Oklahoma City area and serving clients in Oklahoma and the surrounding states.

In his next career, Dr. Lawson was a senior environmental engineer with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, a position which he held for twenty-three years. At DEQ, he was responsible for regulating some of Oklahoma's largest and most complex industrial facilities for hazardous waste compliance. The facilities included McAlester Army Ammunition Plant, Phillips 66 Refinery in Ponca City, and US Air Force bases including Tinker AFB, Altus AFB, and a number of other facilities around the state.

Dr. Lawson served as a member of an Environmental Protection Agency workgroup for the treatment of hazardous waste explosives and unexploded ordinances at the Department of Defense sites. He was also active with the Interstate Technical Regulatory Council, a national environmental coalition that promotes innovative technologies. He was a member of ITRC technical teams and worked on defense-related technical projects. He also authored several academic articles published in the Society of Petroleum Engineers Technical Journal.

Dr. Lawson received an award from the governor of Oklahoma for his service, loyalty and commitment. David was also awarded a Department of the Army commendation from the Commanding Colonel at McAlester Army Ammunition Plant for exceptional performance in support of the base's environmental mission.

Dr. Lawson significantly contributed to the protection of Oklahoma's environment by working closely with the industry, offering common sense solutions, and sharing his knowledge with the regulated community. David was a true professional who was respected by the members of the industry and by his peers at DEQ.

He will be missed by all. David was a long term member of Oak Tree Country Club and Oak Tree Golf Club. He served as co-chairman of the Golf Cart Committee for the Senior PGA Championship in 2006. He enjoyed playing golf and gin rummy with the

other members. A special thanks to the members of both clubs for their love and support. His final wish for his buddies was to "Hit it long and hit it straight!"

David was a Registered Professional Engineer, Life Member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers and member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. He is proudly the great-great grandson of Chief Joseph LaFramboise of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Survivors include his wife Beverly; daughters: Mary Kilcoyne and Susan Kelley; grandchildren: Max Kilcoyne, Jack Grimes and Julia Grimes; and brother: Homer Lee Lawson. David was preceded in death by his parents: Ernest and Frances Lawson.

David was always interested in advancing scientific causes and has donated his body to the University of Texas Medical School. The family wishes to give special thanks to MD Anderson Cancer Care team, Dr. Suzanne Cole and staff, Dr. George Adam Vascellaro, CPN Health Services, Mercy Hospice, DEQ and staff, the military bases and Phillips 66 Refinery environmental personnel and Matthews Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made in his name to University of Texas, Cockrell School of Engineering, 301 E. Dean Keeton St., Austin, Texas 78712, or MD Anderson Cancer Center, 1515 Holcombe, Houston, Texas 77030.

David died at home of pancreatic cancer on July 19 surrounded with love. Together David and wife Beverly had a goal for him to survive until their anniversary and her birthday of July 19. David was an exceptional man who is loved and will be missed by many. A private service will be held at a later date.

Submitting obituaries

To submit an obituary, please send a word document with no more than 300 words, a 300dpi photo and a contact phone number to hownikan@potawatomi.org.

CPN burial assistance through Tribal Rolls

The \$2,000 CPN Burial Assistance Fund is automatically available to all enrolled CPN members. You may fill out a burial assistance fund form if you would like for us to keep it on file in case of any change in resolutions.

Please note: Once a CPN Tribal member has passed, the Tribal Rolls office must

be notified in order for CPN to provide burial funding. Information and instructions for the burial process will be sent to the next of kin and will be discussed then.

For more information please call Tribal Rolls at 405-878-5835 or email CClark@Potawatomi.org.